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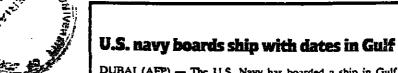
- - - - 5 Old Tasmanian tree shows unusual global warming

#### Knesset members to visit Jordan'

TEL AVIV (AP) — Almost a third of Israel's parliament will board a plane belonging to King Hussein next week and fly to Amman as his guests, Israel Radio said Friday. The delegation of 35 legislators will be headed by Speaker Shevah Weiss and will include heads of all the main factions in the 120-member parliament, the report said. The monarch has extended the invitation to representatives of all parties and committees in the Knesset, or Israeli parliament, as well as Speaker Weiss. They will travel Sunday morning and return in the evening after dining with King Hussein, the report said. The visit comes after several trips to Jordan by Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and other top officials with the two comparies ended a 46 year extra of more in Juliane. since the two countries ended a 46-year state of war in July and signed a peace treaty on Oct. 26. Benyamin Netanyahu, leader of the opposition Likud Party, visited Jordan on Dec. 6.

# Jordan Times

جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية ،الراي،



DUBAI (AFP) — The U.S. Navy has boarded a ship in Gulf waters for violating the four-year-old U.N. embargo on Iraq, a navy spokesman said Friday. He said: "We found substantial evidence that the cargo on board was loaded in Iraq" when U.S. Marines boarded the Gulf Splendour last month. A search of the ship, which was sailing towards the southern Gulf under the flag of the Antilles island of Saint Vincent, turned up "several tonnes of dates," he added, asking to remain anonymous. In all five ships are now known to have been intercepted for violating the embargo since October when an Iraqi troop buildup on its border with Kuwait, which it invaded in August 1990, sparked a huge U.S-led military deployment in the Gulf. The Gulf Spleadour's crew of Indians put up "no resistance" during the search and the ship was handed over to authorities in the United Arab Emirates.

Volume 19 Number 5835

AMMAN SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1995, RAMADAN 4, 1415

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# Israel satisfied with Cairo summit; Palestinians sceptical

CAIRO - Arab leaders won a pledge from Israel at the landmark summit here to resirringays at home actionity and old pals action his children and a tart talks with the Palestinians but failed to make headway on a pullback of Israeli troops on the West Bank, the closure of the territories or an end to settlement

All three issues have dogged negotiations to extending Palestinian self-rule on the West Bank, throwing the initial timetable way off sche-

But an Egyptian official said Friday that the aim of Thursday's landmark summit between the leaders of Israel. Egypt, Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) was "not to resolve the outstanding issues between the Israelis and the Palestinians.

Instead it was aimed "at setting up a mechanism to solve these problems."

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin on Friday called the meeting "a turning point" for peace which would continne "to act in the direction of peace in the Middle East." He held five hours of talks with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, PLO leader

Yasser Arafat and King Hussein, after which they announced the resumption of Israel-PLO talks in Cairo on Monday, and a series of highlevel meetings.

But no firm date was set for a redeployment of Israeli troops on the West Bank away from Palestinian towns already delayed eight

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said Israel had profited from the Cairo summit by not backing down over disputes but PLO officials said its attitude had blocked

the peace process. "I must say that in my opinion on the issue of nuclear weapons, on the issue of

See page 12 for full-text of the final comminque issued after

settlements, on the issue of redeployment, we profited in two ways: we didn't back away from our positions and we didn't create a confrontation," Mr. Peres told Israel Radio.

He indicated, however, the government would ease the closure of the Gaza Strip and West Bank imposed after a suicide bombing on Jan. 22 which killed 21 Israelis.

"Regarding the closure, in my opinion we should begin lifting it slowly. I hope they will begin lifting it," Mr. Peres told Israel's army

But the ban remained firmly in force on Friday, making for a poor turnout for the first Friday prayers in Jerusalem in the Holy Month of Rama-

dan (see separate story). Prime Minister Rabin discussed the ban with security heads on Friday. His spokes-man said it was decided to recommend to the cabinet on Sunday "to ease the situation in humanitarian instances among the residents." He did not elaborate.

Mr. Rabin's domestic standing has suffered badly over attacks by militants that

have killed scores of Israelis. The head of local government in the Palestinian selfrule authority, Saeb Erekat. said Mr. Peres's statement showed Israel's goal at the summit had been to gloss over problems savaging the peace process, not solve

"It seems to me they want to win the elections (in Israel) and not to win the peace. The point of this summit in Cairo was the peace process having

created by this kind of attitude," Dr. Erekat told Ren-

"I'd like to tell Mr. Peres something ... you can't make peace with settlements and occupation and so on and you can't make peace through procedures and forms," Dr. Erekat said. "They (Israel) need to cure themselves from

this way of thinking."
A PLO official in Cairo, speaking on condition he not be named, said Mr. Arafat failed to win real concessions from Israel.

Mr. Arafat, returning to Palestinian self-rule headquarters in Gaza, described the summit as "very good." "It was a very fruitful and

important meeting," he said. Mr. Peres and Mr. Rabin have hailed the summit's anti-violence statement. On Friday it was too early to assess if the Israeli public was impressed with it.

Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa said there was no agreement on key issues such as the Palestinian demand that Israel lift the closure on the West Bank and Gaza or Israel's continued expansion of Jewish settlements in Arab

(Continued on page 7)

Cairo summit backs development bank

Mubarak agreed "to en-

hance economic coopera-

tion and encourage joint

projects, and attract the

international private sec-

tor, particularly in prepara-

tion for the Amman sum-

the parties are committed

to the establishment of a

regional development

The leaders also agreed

to "give special attention to

strengthening the educa-tional capabilities of the

region, with special emph-

asis on science, technology

and computerisation," the communique said. "In this

regard, the parties will

seriously consider and ex-

plore with the European Union the convening of a

special education confer-

In Switzerland last week.

Israeli Foreign Minister

Shimon Peres and his

Egyptian counterpart Amr

Musa met with several in-

ternational companies to

discuss proposals for com-

ence devoted to this aim '

"As part of this process,

mit (Oct. 30, 1995)."

bank," it said.

tries and international

organisations, it was agreed

to set up a task force which

would study the modalities

of setting up the bank. The U.S. has already

committed \$75 million to

the capital of the proposed

bank. The European Un-

ion, which was initially re-

luctant to endorse the idea,

according to Israeli reports,

has now agreed to provide

funds to the capital of the

The Amman conference.

which was deferred until

October from an earlier

schedule in May/June, is

expected to announce the

formal launching of the de-

velopment bank with a

capital expected to be

around \$5 billion, depend-

ing on European Union,

Japanese and Arab Gulf

The Cairo communique

said His Majesty King Hus-

sein, Israeli Prime Minister

Yitzhak Rabin, Palestinian

leader Yasser Arafat and

Egyptian President Hosni

proposed bank.

contribution.

FRIDAY PRAYERS: His Majesty King Hussein attends the first Friday prayer of Ramadan at the Royal Guards Mosque. The Friday sermon was delivered by Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Salam Al Abbadi. Attending the prayer were His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Their Royal Highnesses Princes Abdullah, Faisal and Ali, Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker,

By a Jordan Times

Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The final

communique issued by the

Cairo summit of the leaders

of Jordan, Egypt, Israel

and the Palestine Libera-

tion Organisation (PLO)

on Thursday called for en-

hanced regional economic

cooperation and joint pro-jects and supported the proposal to set up a Middle East regional development

The communique also

called for preparations for

a conference to be held in

Amman in October as a

follow-up to the economic

summit on the Middle East

and North Africa held in

Casablanca late last year.

conference the idea of a

regional development bank

was formally presented. The proposal was further

followed up by a Jordanian

delegation which visited

Washington in January.

During the Washington

talks, attended by 37 coun-

It was at the Casablanca

bank.

Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi, Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem and other senior civil and military officials. Following the prayer, the King, accompanied by Prince Hassan and Princes Abdullah, Faisal, Ali and Sharif Zeid visited the tombs of King Abdullah, King Talal and Queen Mother Zein Al Sharaf.

# 'balanced' security in Golan ·

BEIRUT (AP) - Syria's vice president Friday reiterated that Damascus will settle for nothing less than a total Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights with "equal and balanced security arrangements" as a precondi-

tion for peace. Abdul Halim Khaddam made the statement in an interview recorded in Damascus last week and broadcast Friday by Lebanon's Future Television, a private Beirut station owned by Prime

Minister Rafik Al Hariri. Mr. Khaddam's restatement of Syria's position contained little that was new. But it underlined Syria's determination to hang tough in the tortuous war of nerves with Israel, hoping the Americans will pressure Israel into

Mr. Khaddam blamed the Jewish state for a year-old stalemate in Israel's negotiations with Syria and Leba-

"Objectively, no progress has been achieved because the Israelis have not changed their intransigence," he said. Israel refuses to commit itself to a complete withdrawal from the Golan until Damascus agrees to complete normalisation of relations with the Jewish state.

Mr. Khaddam, architect of Syria's role in Lebanon, said Damascus also insists on a complete pullback from a border enclave in South Lebanon which Israel has occupied in one form or another since 1978.

"We shall not sign a peace treaty with Israel, even if it totally withdraws from the Golan Heights but does not totally relinquish South Lebanon," Mr. Khaddam

"The Syrians and Lebanese tracks are inseparable. There should be complete Israeli withdrawals from both the Golan Heights and South Lebanon before peace can be realised," he added.

The Israeli government also insists on disarming Lebanon's Iranian-backed Shiite Muslim guerrillas of Hizbollah, or Party of God, 25 a precondition for a withdrawal from South Lebanon. "As far as we're concerned, withdrawal is the basic and foremost issue," Mr. Khaddam said.

"Security arrangements come second.

# Syria wants Israel reduces number of faithful for Aqsa prayers

(Agencies) — About 20,000 Muslims flocked into Jerusalem for the first Friday prayers of the Holy Month of Ramdan amid tight Israeli security, but crowds were sharply down because of the closure of Gaza and the West

Israeli security forces were posted at the entrances to the third holiest site in Islam. Usually more than 150,000

people came to pray at Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock during the major Musfim celebrations.

But the almost two-week old closure of the West Bank and Gaza Strip banning Palestinians from entering Israel and occupied Jerusalem kept numbers down to

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin said Friday that the closure was "above all a security measure" imposed after 21 Israelis were killed in a double suicide bombing on

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres echoed the words of Police Minister Moshe Shah-

Rabin's efforts to shore up

when an ultra-orthodox party

rejected his overtures and

said it was joining the right-

wing opposition.

Mr. Rabin, trailing badly
in the opinion polis, had
hoped to entice the Shas Par-

ty into his coalition, which it

quit in September 1993 when

its leader and Interior Minis-

ter Arych Deri was indicted

Instead, Rabbi Ovadia

Yossef, Shas spiritual leader.

has written to the premier

telling him that they would be

going over to the opposition. Mr. Deri told Israeli radio:

"Rabbi Yossef believes that

the deterioration of the

security situation in Israel

does not allow us to rejoin

the government coalition.

We are thus in opposition. Rabbi Yossef believed that

Mr. Rabin, who has tried to

keep the peace process on

track despite a wave of

Palestinian suicide bombings

and growing public disillu-sionment, had become a

According to the Jeru-

"hostage to terrorism."

for corruption.

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM al saying: "I think we should (Agencies) — About 20,000 gradually lift the closure of the territories.

Heavy Israeli police patrols have been posted across the Holy City for the dawn-todusk month of fasting for Ramadan.

Hundreds of Muslims also prayed inside the Ibrahimi Mosque Hebron on Friday, without incident. A Jewish settler gunned down at least 30 Palestinians

at worship in the Hebron mosque almost a year ago, on Feb. 25, 1994. This year Jews have been banned from praying inside

the complex on Fridays during Ramadan for security

But the worshippers dispersed peacefully under the gaze of hundreds of Israeli police deployed throughout the Old City.

Shas refuses to join

Rabin government

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Israeli salem Post, Mr. Deri private-Prime Minister Yitzhak y was reluctant to rejoin a

his beleaguered minority government failed on Friday

had become a "sinking ship."

Since Shas walked out Mr.

taken.

Egypt, Jordan and the Palestinians. It was the first time Israeli leaders met at the same time with the leaders of all the Arab signatories to peace accords with the Jewish state.

Mr. Rabin praised a statement drafted during the summit condemning terrorism, but added that meeting as a "peace bloc" was more important than formal declara-

Security sources said they would recommend at a toplevel meeting in Tel Aviv that Mr. Rabin ease the closure to allay Palestinians' frustrations during Ramadan. Police spokesman Shmuel

Ben-Ruby said 60,000 Mus-lims attended Friday's service at Al Aqsa, but reporters on the scene only saw about 20,000.

"Israel continues its oppressive, inhuman measures without considering this Holy Month," Sheikh Sabri said in his sermon. "Do they think these oppressive measures against the people of Palestine... will make this

(Continued on page 7)

#### Sheikh Ikrema Sabri delivered an angry sermon at the Al Aqsa Mosque accusing 62,000, according to police Israel of oppressing Muslims and predicting its destruc-

Mr. Rabin and Mr. Peres

returned early Friday from a meeting with the leaders of

Labour-led government that

Since Shas walked out Mr.

Rabin has had to rely on the

votes of five Arab and com-

munist deputies, something

he is loathe to do when his

toric decisions have to be

Tourist Minister Uzi Baram told AFP earlier this

the future of this govern-

ment," and Labour deputy

Rafi Edri added: "if Rabbi

Youssef says no, the Rabin

government will fall in two or

would garner 52 per cent of

votes if a general election was

held now, compared with 38

Mr. Rabin's Labour Party

would win 39 seats, down five

from the June 1992 elections.

for Mr. Rabin.

An opinion poll published

three months."

# Ben Alawi arrives in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yousef Ben Alawi Ben Abdullah arrived here late Friday on a brief visit to Jordan during which he will be received by His Majesty King Hussein, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, re-

week that "Shas will decide ported. "I will convey to His Majesty the greetings of his brother, His Majesty Sultan Qaboos" of the Sultanate of Oman, Mr. Ben Alawi told Petra in an arrival statement.

Friday showed Mr. Rabin 14 He said his visit was percentage points behind part of "continuous conright-wing opposition Likud sultations and coordinaleader Benajamin Netanytion between the two brotherly countries on va-The poli, conducted rious issues with the aim Wednesday by the Dahaf Inof serving the common stitute and published in the interest of the two coundaily Yediot Aharonot, showed that Mr. Netanyahu tries and the Arab Na-

tion.'

Mr. Ben Alawi will also bold talks with Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker and other senior Jordanian officials, Petra

GOITI, Russia (Agencies) — Russian tanks and infantry southern flank. broke through Chechen defences southeast of Grozny

on Friday, reaching a major crossroads that controls the last open road into the city, Chechen soldiers said. "I don't know where they came from, but the tanks and soldiers are at the cros-

sroads," said Ahmed Gilayev, a retreating Chechen soldier. He said his position at Givkalovski, just north of the crossroads, had been taken

by Russians. Dozens of cars and trucks packed with Chechen guerrilla fighters and refugees retresroads, along the main road that sweeps along Grozny's

Russians break through Chechen lines The advance would leave

Grozny virtually encircled. The crossroads is about 12 kilometres south of Grozny and controls traffic moving from Chechen-held territory in and out of the city. The only other Chechen-

held road into Grozny is through the southern Chernorechye district, but that has been so heavily shelled in the last week that it has become viftually impassable. Planes bombed Chechen

defences northeast of the crossroads shortly before midday, apparently just before the attack broke through. Chechen soldiers could be

from the crossroads and already 12 kilometres south of Grozny.

Yamadayev Khalid, Chechen military commander of the Gudermes region east of Grozny, said his forces were expecting an all-out Russian assault from the east to seize the towns of Gudermes and Argun and encircle Grozny. In Strasbourg, France, the

33-nation Council of Europe has suspended membership talks with Russia until Moscow stops attacking Chechenya. Voting late Thursday to

suspend talks, the council's parliamentary assembly also condemned "the indiscriminseen taking up positions in fields near Goiti, well back ate and disproportionate use of force by the Russian military."
The council was founded in 1949 to defend human rights and parliamentary democracy. It is the oldest of the post-war organisations promoting European unity, and best known for its 1950 hu-

puterised education in the

Middle East. Mr. Peres

also called for a "regional

On the Jordanian-Israeli

peace treaty, the Cairo

communique said the four

leaders "expressed their

appreciation for the swift

implementation of the

(Oct. 26) peace treaty be-

tween Jordan and Israel.

They expressed the hope

that the near future would

witness the achievement of

peace accords between

Israel and Syria and Leba-

non." (See full text of the

communique on page 12).

that he and his counter-

parts from Jordan, Israel

and the Palestinian Nation-

al Authority (PNA) would

meet with U.S. Secretary

of State Warren Christ-

opher in Washington on

Feb. 12 to discuss the ideas

discussed in the Cairo

meeting. The summit com-

munique said the four lead-

ers had agreed on the

Washington talks.

Mr. Musa said Friday

summit on education.

man rights convention.
Its core membership of Western European democracies has expanded to include new Eastern European democracies — Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Poland, Lithuania. Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia.

Council spokeswoman Henriette Girard said assembly members would demand a ceasefire with Chechenya.

(Continued on page 7)

# Croats seek Belgrade help over rebel Serbs

SARAJEVO (R) — Croatian Foreign Minister Mate Granic will visit rump Yugoslavia within a month in an effort to spur diplomatic recognition and reduce the threat of renewed war, Croatian government sources said on Friday.

Mr. Granic will explore the prospects for peacefully ending the deadlock over the future of the rebel Republic of Serb Krajina (RSK) on Croatian territory.

Croatian President Franjo Tudjman, angered by the faiiure of the U.N. to restore the RSK to Zagreb's control, ordered U.N. peacekeepers to leave Croatia by the end of June.

The move has fanned fears that Serbia proper could be dragged into more fighting with Croatia in defence of its RSK brethren.

U.N. spokesman Michael Williams told reporters in The presence of 12,000 Belgrade that if peacekeeping forces did stop monitoring the ceasefire between

Mr. Granic's visit will be the first to Belgrade by a Zagreb minister since Croatia fought a six month war with its Serb minority and the

former Yugoslav federal

army after declaring inde-

Croats and Serbs, "it would

be like living in a town of

wooden houses without a fire

brigade."

pendence in 1991. Yugoslav Foreign Minister Vladislav Jovanovic had talks in Zagreb last November but the two sides have still not found grounds for mutual

recognition. The RSK's refusal to accept Croatian authority has been a major stumbling block to the normalisation of rela-

U.N. peacekeeping troops on the third of Croatian territory controlled by the rebel Serbs has so far kept the peace but has also frustrated the Croatians' desire to get their lost land back.

A Croatian official told Reuters that Zagreb did not want another war with Serbs but sought "a clear sign" from Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic that the RSK Serbs should "find a peaceful solution within

Mr. Tudjman has threatened to evict the U.N. before and backed down. But Mr. Williams said that this time, "all the indications we have seen, private and public, formal and informal,

underline the seriousness of the Croatian government's intentions."

The U.N. has also been alarmed by a warning from Bosnian Serbs that they will reinforce the RSK Serbs if the Croats attack Krajina.

The U.N. mandate in Croatia expires at the end of March although Mr. Tudjman said the peacekeepers would then have three

months to pack up and leave. In Bosnia, U.N. peacekeepers reported an upsurge of fighting in the Mus-lim northwest Bihac enclave. Military observers said almost 250 tank, mortar and artillery rounds were fired in

a four-hour exchange. The Bihac pocket is the weak point in a afour-month

(Continued on page 7)

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MPs hold ta

MAN (J.T.) — A Jorda-

parliamentary delega-me led by deputy Taher Al year held talks with Austra-

government officials in

h state of New South Wales

ating cooperation in par-

imentary affairs. Mr. Masri and his two-

amber team outlined to the instalian hosts Jordan's

ariamentary experiment at discussed issues of com-

The delegation, which ar-

media Sydney Thursday, on

Ilday visit at the invitation

due Australian parliament.

scheduled to meet parlia-

members and various

prerument officials this

ak according to Mr. Mas-

(bon his arrival in Sydney.

a parliament deputy said

in the Jordanian delegation

as concerned about study-

egite Australian parliamen-

FAD pledges

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gricultural pi

MMAN (Petra) - Agricul-

an Ministry Secretary

Garal Ghaleb Abu Orabi

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and International Fund for

Micultural Development

FAD) had expressed readi-

am back Jordanian agri-

and displayed

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and projects in Karak

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he Jordan Valley.

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speaking upon his return

Amman, after attending

FAD meeting in the Ita-

apital, Mr. Orabi said

the participants discus-

alreports about the fund's

handing of programmes in

Atrica, issues related to

prenty in the rural regions of

world and the fund's

indget for 1995, among other

He said that IFAD had

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NORTH SHUNEH (Petra) -

Education Minister Abdul

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COPENHAGEN (Petra) — Brethe II of Denmark Fride

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<sup>Jordan</sup>, Syria to dis

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NEWS I

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oncern.

# Abdul Meguid asks Ghali to **Orobe new Pan Am claims**

DUBAI (R) — The Arab League asked the United Nations on Friday to give Libya a chance by investigating zlleged new evidence about the bombing of a U.S. airline: over Lockerbie, Scotland,

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The request was made by Arab League Secretary-Ceneral Esmat Abdul Meguid to U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali, a former Egyptian cabinet colleague, in a rare live debate on United Arab Emirates television.

"New developments have counted in the past 10 days with the unveiling of evi-Gence removing suspicion from Libya," he said from Cairo as Dr. Ghali listened Som New York.

"So it is natural that this new evidence is given... a chance for the possibility of reviewing the fashion by which the Security Council ceals with Libya and its imposition of an embargo and canctions on it." Mr. Abdul Meguid was

exparently referring to a recottish newspaper, saying an Iranian diplomat paid \$10 million for the bombing of the Pan Am airliner and a second report that Palestihian guerrillas could have been involved.

British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd told the Britsh Parliament on Wednesday: "No credible evidence as been found to substanti-



Esmat Abdul Meguid ate either theory.'

The U.N. Security Council imposed an air and arms embargo on Libya in 1992 for refusing to surrender two alleged Libyan intelligence agents wanted in Britain and the United States in connection with the bombing, which killed 270 people.
Dr. Abdul Meguid, a for-

mer Egyptian deputy prime minister and foreign minister who like Dr. Ghali studied international law, questioned the legality of their demand.

"How can Britain and America insist on handing the two suspects to them" when they do not have extradition treaties with Libya,

The 22-member Arab League has backed Libya in the dispute and Dr. Abdul Meguid asked the U.N. secretary-general to "borrow

a room" at the International Court of Justice for the two Libyans to stand trial before a Scottish tribunal.

Washington and London have already rejected an offer for the Libvans to be tried in Scotland or under Scottish law.

Dr. Ghali responded by suggesting that Libya should present a new document to the Security Council containing Dr. Abdul Meguid's argument. He said the Security Council might take a new stand if it was convinced by such a document.

"There must be action," he added. "Media reports are one thing and an official document by (Libya) is something else."

The two veteran diplomats calm and cordial during the debate, originally organised to discuss the so-called "new world order." But participants accused the United Nations of double standards when dealing with the Arab and Muslim worlds.
Egyptian Parliamentary

Speaker Fathi Sorour said the United Nations has failed in its mission and demanded a change in rules governing permanent membership of the Security Council.

Dr. Abdul Meguid, a former Egyptian envoy to the world body in New York. said: "The Security Council often uses two different scales and this is not his (Ghali's) fault. It is the fault of the Security Council."

# Europe, Turkey discuss relations

LONDON (R) — The foreen ministers of Turkey and our Western European nazions on Thursday reaffirmed heir commitment to a strong

The British Foreign Office aid Foreign Secretary Dougas Hurd met with the foreign ministers of Turkey, France, Germany and Italy to continge an "intensive but informai dialogue between Turkey and Western European states with a special interest in the region.

They also discussed the civil rights situation in Tursey, as well as the need for a negotiated settlement in Cyprus, which has been divided since Turkey invaded in 1974 and occupied the northern

Allegations of abuses by Turkish police are longstanding. Human rights groups claim the Turkish military is escalating a brutal campaign to wipe out villages considered havens for Kurdish rebels who seek an autonomous

Turkish officials contend

uncompromising tactics are necessary to keep the nation of 60 million people together. A member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, Turkey is seeking greater foreign assistance to stabilise its shaky economy and wants membership in the European Union.

The Financial Times anoted French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe as saying after the talks that agreement on a customs union between Turkey and the European Union would be reached next month.

Turkey's parliament is moving slowly on possible changes to the wide powers given to security forces under the law-and-order constitution written after a 1980 military coup.

Turkish Foreign Minister spokesman said.

Murat Karayalcin "emphasised the Turkish commitment to democratic values and outlined the measures the Turkish government is undertaking to reform the constitution and associated legal instruments, and to enforce the civil rights which they provide," a Foreign Office spokesman said anonymously, in keeping with British practice.

The Financial Times quoted Mr. Hurd as saying the discussion on human rights was "the most substantial" he had ever had with Turkey on the issue.

German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel and Italy's Susanna Agnelli attended the

"Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to a strong and developing relationship between European and Turkey," the Foreign Office



attention of photographers as he is detained remain in this position after they saw in their against a wall on the Via Dolorosa in Jeru- computer that he has been in prison four times salem's Old City while Israeli border police for stone-throwing offences (AFP photo)

#### Joblessness high among Lebanese in Australia SYDNEY (AFP) - Re-

latively poor education and a lack of English has contributed to higher than average unemployment among Lebanese migrants accepted by Australia, according to an official report released here Friday.

The Australian government's Bureau of Immigration, Multicultural and Population Research said unemployment among Lebanese-born immigrants reached 33.7 per cent in 1991 - almost three times the rate for all Australians, which peaked at 11.6 per cent that

The bureau report, based on the 1991 census, also showed a much lower income for Australia's 69,000 Lebanese-born residents -11,300 Australian dollars (\$8,600) compared to 14,200 for the total Australian population. They mainly did unskilled work.

Among other findings, it said only 24.8 per cent of Lebanese-born residents had educational or vocational qualifications compared to 41.2 per cent for the total of overseas-born residents and 38.8 per cent for the general population

Among factors blamed for this under-representation were "inadequate levels of written and spoken English, lack of conceptual, literacy and numeracy skills and limited confidence in handling formal education, often compounded by disruption of kus said.

schooling caused by war and immigration." starts The report also showed "a relatively high proportion"
— 12.9 per cent — of Lebanese had never attended

cent of the total Australian population. It found the main causes of high unemployment among the Lebanese-born were the high proportion of recent arrivals in Australia, many having left their homeland because of war and political

instability. Other factors were their relative lack of proficiency in English and the disruption of education, training and employment in Lebanon prior to

departure.

Many had arrived in Australia at a time of economic recession and were channelled into the unskilled sector. which made them more vulnerable to redundancy.

Workplace attitudes held by Australian employers was said to be another factor contributing to their employment difficulties.

The report, one of a series of ethnic profiles by the bureau, was launched Friday by Immigration Minister Nick Bolkus who said that while the Lebanese were a diverse community, they had another common feature.

'From the time when Lebanese people first started coming to Australia, they have warmly embraced this country as their home," Bol-

## Major renovation at Holy school, compared to 0.9 per Sepulchre Church

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AFP) - Restoration of the great dome of the Holy Sepulchre church has begun after the three denominations which control the central shrine of Christendom set aside decades of squabbling.

"The communities have reached an historic agreement upon a common design and common execution, Bishop Timothy of the Greek Orthodox patriarchate told AFP on Tuesday.

"Preparatory work is now underway," he said. "Experts are studying the existing surfaces.

Scaffolding has covered large areas of the basilica traditional site of the crucifixion, burial and resurrection of Christ - since British mandate authorities ignored the feuding clerics and shored up the endangered building iri 1935. Urgently needed but li-

mited structural repairs were carried out in 1960 and on the 35-metre dome in 1979. But wrangling between the

Greek Orthodox, Armenian Gregorian and Roman Catholic churches blocked any accord to complete repairs to extensive damage from fires in 1808 and 1949 as well as an earthquake in 1927.

will now be decorated with 12 rays of gold, each in triple, representing the apostles and the trinity, on a pearly white background of clouds. "It was a long way to reach

The soot-blackened dome

the agreement," admitted Bishop Timothy. "Every stage needs the

common agreement," he explained. The bishop said the work

was expected to take about two years after which the scaffolding will be removed for the first time since 1935. "We are eager to see the completion of the work in

order to restore the beauty and tranquility of this unique Christian monument in the world." However, Metropolitan

Daniel, who runs the Holy Sepulchre for the Greek patriarchate, regretted that his proposal for a Byzantine mosaic was not accepted.

# NEWS IN BRIEF FU congratul

#### Courts order seizure of book pro-Kurdish daily

ISTANBUL (AP) - A Turkish court on Thursday ordered the seizure of a book by a Turk who has written on the waragainst the Kurds, and another court ordered the confisca. tion of copies of a pro-Kurdish daily. The author, Yasar Kemai, recently wrote in the German newsmagazine Der Speigel that Kurdish villages were burned in an attempt to battle the 11-year separatist rebellion in southeast Turkey. Western governments and rights groups have made similar charges. The government denies any military action to destroy Kurdish villages. The state security court said it was ordering the seizure of Mr. Kemal's book, "The Freedoms of Thought and Turkey" because it provokes "hatred and enmity on the basis of differences in people's races and locations where they live." Mr. Kemal and his publisher Erdal Oz, were ordered to appear in court next week for questioning. The author is awaiting arraignment on charges of making separatist Kudish propaganda in his Der Spiegel article. A prosecutor said he would face trial under arraignment of the said he would face trial under arraignment of the said he would face trial under arraignment. anti-terrorism law. Conviction could bring a prison sent-ence of two to five years. In separate court developments in Istanbal, seizure was ordered for Ozgur Ulke (Free Country) daily. The court contended the paper was virtually the same publication as one banned last year on charges of making separatist propaganda. That paper was called Ozgur Gundem.

#### 6 Israelis arrested in theft of Russian manuscripts

TEL AVIV (AFP) - Israeli police have arrested six Israelis suspected of involvement in the theft of 90 rare manuscripts from the Saint Petersburg national library.
Police said the suspects, arrested in Tel Aviv, were
believed to have assisted a Russian mafia gang in stealing the manuscripts worth \$300 million. Russian police broke up the smuggling ring and recovered the manuscripts. After investigations established that Israelis were involved. Russian President Boris Yeltsin requested help from the Israeli police. A special Israeli-Russian police team launched an undercover operation in Israel and tracked downthe suspects, who were in their 40s.

#### Stolen artifacts returned to Egypt

BERLIN (AFP) — Antique statuettes stolen in Egypt were handed back to a Cairo Museum official here after German police found them in a tunnel in the Schoeneberg district of Berlin, police said. An investigation was opened in Germany at the request of Egyptian police following the theft from the museum in 1993. Police here found 20 figurines and five statuettes in the tunnel in a park but the most valuable piece, depicting an ancient Egyptian dignitary, remains missing. The statues, which stand 8.6 to 18. centimetres high, were in the form of mummies. Placed in tombs, it was believed they would help a deceased person in his voyage to the afterlife.

#### Britons apologise over Cyprus killing.

LONDON (AFP) — Three British soldiers accused of killing 23-year-old a Danish tour guide in a drunken rampage on Cyprus have apologised to her family, the London Evening Standard said. In an interview in Nicosia's central prison, the three accused Royal Green Jackets said they wanted to say sorry to Louise Jensen's family. Riflemen Justin Fowler, 27. Alan Ford, 26, and Jeff Pernell, 23, said they were not admitting guilt to the charges of manslaughter, abduction and attempted rape of Jensen by their apology for events on the night of her death. But Mr. Fowler said: "I would like to say sorry to them... There is not a lot else you can say... We are just sorry for the grief the ranny nave time." The men have not entered a plea to the charges, in Cymus, and their which carry a mandatory life sentence in Cyprus, and the lawyers are mounting a vigorous defence on their behalf, said the paper. Mr. Ford added: "What I would also say to the family and to the world is wait until the end of the trial. Then see... There has only been one side of the story told.

### France decorates Airbus hijack captain, crew

PARIS (AFP) - French authorities have decorated the captain and crew of an Air France Airbus hijacked by an-Algerian guerrilla commando over Christmas, the Transport Ministry said. Flight Commander Bernard Dhellemme, 51, was made a Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur, and his 12 crew were named Chevaliers de l'Ordre National du Merite. The 13 men and women were decorated for their "exemplary conduct during the hostage-taking, which began at Algiers airport on Dec. 24. The four hijackers ordered the captain to fly to Marseille, southern France, where the plane was stormed 54 hours later by Prench elite troops. The gunmen, who murdered three passengers, were all killed.

## Court hearings on banned film to resume

CAIRO (AFP) — Appeal court hearings on the banned film "The Emigrant" will resume next Wednesday, magistrates announced Wednesday after watching the movie by leading Egyptian film-maker Yousef Shahin. The official news agency MENA said the private showing took place earlier Wednesday in a cinema owned by Mr. Shahin. The film, a joint French-Egyptian production, was banned by a Cairo court on Dec. 25 following a complaint by a lawyer. Mahmoud Abu Al Faid, and withdrawn from all cinema screens. Egypt's highest Sunm Muslim authority Al Azhar also recommended it be forbidden, saying the movie "contradicts Islamic law by personifying the Prophet Joseph." The emigrant tells the story of the Prophet Joseph. - called Ram in the film - who, according to religious belief, left his desert tribe 3,000 years ago to Egypt, the centre of civilisation at that time, to learn about agricul-

#### Sudan steps up 'Popular Defence' Force training people from different profeshas ordered mobilised. Eritrean military units were ing private farms.

GEDAREF, Sudan (AFP) - One state government in east Sudan has already set up 400 military training camps in compliance with a call by President Omar Al Bashir for a million men capable of bearing arms by the end of the year.

The governor of Gedaref state, Sherif Ahmad Omar Badr, said authorities there have trained more than 60,000 Popular Defence Force (PDF) recruits in compliance with General Bashir's call for mobilisation.

His government plans to train more than 50,000 others during the holy mouth of Ramadan and will continue to recruit other batches "until all the people of Gedaref are trained." Mr. Badr told AFP. The state's PDF coordinator, Ahmad Osman Al Nour, said that in all 70,000 recruits

had been trained, and it appeared that the target of a million could be reached. Hundreds of thousands of sional groups and backgrounds have undergone

The PDF is one of the institutions set up by Gen. Bashir after his junta ousted an elected civilian government in June 1989, scrapped political parties and trade unions and established an Islamic regime.

PDF recruits are sent to an advance course in fighting techniques before being dis-patched to zones in south Sudan to fight alongside gov-ernment soldiers against the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA).

Mr. Badr said that the latest batch of recruits was named after an engineer killed on the front last month, "Martyr Dr. Mahmoud Mohammad Sherif," according to a press statement, and that some of these men would be sent to Khartoum to join a PDF regiment Gen. Bashir

He said there was no direct link between the passing out of the recruits and deterioratmilitary training in various parts of Sudan with the PDF. ing relations with neighbouring Eritrea, and took up Gen. Bashir's words, saying the government is bent on military training in line with Isla-

> mobilise forces to "intimidate the foes of Allah," The training was not specifically to cope with the situation along the border with Eritrea, but to provide men to be ready for any emergency, the governor said.
> In addition to Gedaref.

Eritrea borders on the Sudanese states of Red Sea and Kassala and the shortest part of the frontier is with his own state, the governor said.

mic commands to ready and

Eritrea broke off diplomatic ties with Sudan early last December, accusing the Khartoum junta of seeking to destabilise the Horn of Africa

Mr. Badr declared that

concentrating on the border and blamed the poor relations on the government in Asmara, saying it had some motive that drove it into

antagonising Sudan.
"Our ties with the Eritrean
people are firm," Mr. Badr

He also described as relations with Ethiopia as "excellent" following a meeting of a joint committee of his state government and representatives of the neighbouring

Ethiopian region. The committee resolved some differences over an undemarcated border. PDF coordinator Nour told

AFP that one of his achievements was maintenance of security along the Ethiopian border. The PDF set up an expansive farm near the frontier town of Fagasha, manned with its troops, under a "Green Security" scheme. Other soldiers were protect-

Mr. Nour said the PDF helped safeguard highways with round-the-clock patrols to fight off armed bandits. Some PDF elements have also been given special training in anti-smuggling operations, he said. Since the establishment of

the PDF in 1990, the state has sent more than a thousand "mujahedeen" to the southern war front, where 150 of the recruits were still fighting, Mr. Nour said. He expressed pride that the state had offered 17 of the

mujahedeen as "martyrs."

The rebel SPLA has been fighting since 1983 to free mainly Christian and animist south Sudan from the Islamic, Arabised north, the mainstream SPLA is led to Colonel John Garang, but the movement has latterly been weakened by factional splits and Khartoum's troops have made gains.

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

#### Tel: 773111-19 PROGRAMME TWO ..... Cocotte Minutes ..... Que Le Mielluer Gagne . Association Bien Faiteurs

JORDAN TELEVISION

...... News in French .... Fa Ut Pas Revers .... You Bet Your Life 22:20 Feature film: "Besty's Wedding" 23:59 ...... And the Sea Will Tell

**PRAYER TIMES** 

#### . Maghreb CHURCHES

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Auglican Charch Tel. 630851, Tel. 628543. Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331. St. Ephraim Charch Tel. 771751. 652526, Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel: 824328. aza) 28. German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tel. 684195 The Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654932 Church of Nazarene Tel. 675691. The Evangelical Local Church in

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#### EMERGENCIES

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## HOSPITALS

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#### FOR THE TRAVELLER QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL

**AIRPORT** 

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia In-ternational Airport Tel. (08):53200-5, where it should always be veri-

ARRIVALS Royal Jordanian (RJ) (Terminal 1) 19:15 ..... Beirut (RJ) 19:25 ...... Colombo (RJ) 

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#### AMMAN (Petra) — A Jorda headed by Hamdi Tabba'a Businessmen Association, le Feb. 6, on a two-day visit i businessmen on expanding so ment cooperation. The deler ment on the formation of a j which will work towards ..... 200 / 180 480 / 260 360/ 240 between the private sectors

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for peace was a significant step towards the full implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 242.

The Jordan-Israel peace treaty, said the ambassador. constituted an important first step towards the establishment of a comprehensive and permanent peace which the European Union had been seeking to achieve.

The message said that the European Union was determined to provide Jordan with continued backing towards the creation of a permanent peace in the Middle East

# Jordanian, Australian Jordanian, Australian MPs hold talks MPs hold talks

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Jordanian parliamentary delegation led by deputy Taher Al main parliament of sold arrested in Tel Aviv. Later and the state of New South Wales tackling cooperation in parliamentary affairs.

O million Russian police by the cooperation were limited to the anstralian hosts Jordan's Anstralian hosts Jordan's

that Israelis were more elisin requested help from e.13ii requested map mon-raeli-Russian police team k non in Israel and tracked to Australian hosts Jordan's parliamentary experiment and discussed issues of common concern.

The delegation, which arrived in Sydney Thursday, on statuentes stolen in Egypt. a 10-day visit at the invitation seam official here after Gare et in the Schoeneberg disk of the Australian parliament. is scheduled to meet parliaei in the schoenevergusser investigation was opend. Egyptian police following. ment members and various government officials this week, according to Mr. Masin the tunnel in a part be;

Upon his arrival in Sydney, the parliament deputy said that the Jordanian delegation was concerned about studying the Australian parliamentary experiment and discussing ways of bolstering parliamentary cooperation.

Mr. Masri also spoke about the Middle East peace process, outlining Jordan's en-deavours in this respect.

He also outlined His Majesty King Hussein's continued efforts to restore solidarity among Arab states and ensure the implementation of the requirements of peace in the coming stage.

Referring to the four-country Middle Eastern Cairo meeting, Mr. Masri said that it was aimed at giving further momentum to the peace process, not only on the Israeli-Palestinian track but also on the other Israeli-Arab tracks.

On Sunday, Mr. Masri plans to open talks with the Australian parliamentarians in Canberra.

#### **IFAD** pledges support for Kingdom's agricultural projects

AMMAN (Petra) — Agriculture Ministry Secretary General Ghaleb Abu Orabi said Friday that the Romebased International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) had expressed readiness to back Jordanian agricultural plans and displayed interest in financing agri-cultural projects in Karak and Tafileh, and in the enlargement of the Kafrein dam in the Jordan Valley.

Speaking upon his return to Amman, after attending an IFAD meeting in the Italian capital, Mr. Orabi said that the participants discussed reports about the fund's financing of programmes in Africa, issues related to poverty in the rural regions of the world and the fund's budget for 1995, among other

He said that IFAD had displayed readiness to support Jordanian schemes. IFAD has supplied Jordan. since 1977, with three major loans which were used to finance agricultural schemes in the Kingdom, according to Mr. Orabi.

The loans, he said, financed plans undertaken by the Ministry of Agriculture. the Jordan Cooperative Organisation and the Agricultural Credit Corporation.

Cooperation with IFAD, added Mr. Orabi, is to continue through the fund's support of the national plans to develop pasture lands and help boost the Kingdom's

IFAD, which groups 145 nations, provides loans to Third World countries, to help them finance agricultural projects, and small farmers and needy groups in rural areas trying to develop their lands. The loans are channelled through the concerned national govern-

#### **NEWS IN BRIEF**

#### School health committee formed

NORTH SHUNEH (Petra) — Deputy Prime Minister and Education Minister Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh has ordered the formation of a school health committee in the North Shuneh district, with the district governor, Nail Al Azabas its chairman. The committee, grouping representa-tives of the ministries of health, education, awqaf and municipal and rural affairs and the environment, will draw up plans for cooperation between schools and the health parties concerned. The committee is entrusted, among other things, with defining health and environmental problems, educating school children about their causes and means of prevention, in addition to drawing up the necessary training programmes to equip teachers with the skills needed to help address these problems.

#### **Envoy to Denmark presents credentials**

COPENHAGEN (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Margarethe II of Denmark Friday received the credentials of Jordan's ambassador to Denmark, Samir Khalifa, who is also Jordan's ambassador to Germany. Mr. Khalifa conveyed to Queen Margarethe greetings from His Majesty King Hussein and his best wishes for her and the Danish people. The Danish monarch asked Mr. Khalifa to convey her greetings to King Hussein and the Jordanian people and said she was looking forward to her forthcoming visit to Jordan next November, in response to an invitation extended to her by Their Majesties King Hussein and

#### Queen Noor. Jordan, Syria to discuss business ties

AMMAN (Petra) — A Jordanian businessmen delegation headed by Hamdi Tabba'a, president of the Jordanian Businessmen Association, leaves for Damascus Monday. Feb. 6, on a two-day visit to Syria for talks with Syrian businessmen on expanding scopes of economic and investment cooperation. The delegation will also sign an agreement on the formation of a joint Jordanian-Syrian council, which will work towards enhancing bilateral relations between the private sectors in both countries.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

#### **EXHIBITIONS**

- Book exhibition at the Royal Cultural Centre. Also showing another exhibition of Arabic calligraphy. Exhibition of abstract art by Mohammad Labadi at Alia
- ★ Educational works depicting the life of "Voltaire" at the French Cultural Centre.



Her Majesty Queen Noor Thursday tor of the United Nations Children's Fund attends a memorial service eulogising who died on Jan. 28 (Petra photo) James P. Grant, former executive direc-

### J. Grant eulogised at memorial service

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — James P. Grant, the former executive director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) who died on Jan. 28, was eulogised as a man who dedicated his life to the world's children in a memorial service held in Amman on Thursday.

Attended by Her Majesty Queen Noor and organised by the Amman-based UNICEF Regional Office for the Middle East and North Africa, the gathering was an occasion for those who had only heard of Dr. Grant to learn of the man's single-minded devotion to knock at every door in pursuit of his objective to ensure that children throughout the world would not die of preventable causes.

Dr. Grant died of cancer at a New York hospital two days after he resigned from the agency he headed for 15 years.

Addressing the nearly 250-strong audience, Osman Hashim, resident representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Amman, paid tribute to Dr. Grant's successful efforts to convince world governments to give high priority to children in their rational: plans....

"More significantly, brutalisation of children and all other forms of maninflicted harms on this sector of population is no longer an exclusively domestic concern of the perpetrating party," said Dr. Hashim. "It is today, thanks to UN-ICEF and to the historic summit it held in 1990, a concern of the world com-

munity at large." Samir Faouri, deputising for Minister of Health Aref Batayneh, highlighted Dr. Grant's focus on getting to children who stood in need rather than waiting for chil-dren to turn up for help. He noted that Grant had said in 1992 in an address: "The life-saving health knowledge and technology must be extended to those hundreds of millions of children — in fact the majority of the world's children who will never walk into your office, and who will rarely if ever see the inside of any doctor's office

or hospital." Inam Al Mufti, adviser to Queen Noor, said Dr. Grant "held a compelling conviction in the ability of

Nine injured

By Rana Husseini

in collision

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According to the police

official, the trailer was car-

rying waste which became

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"The bus was driving too

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police official said.

Jaber, an Iraqi national.

ordinary people throughout the world to take charge of their own health care, and use low-cost, simple technologies and interventions to improve their life-long quality of

'Many others in the world have tried this same approach, but only UN-ICEF, under James Grant's leadership, working with multinational partners, national governments and local communities, has achieved child survival and child development," Mrs. Mufti said.

"It remains for us, especially those who had the privilege of working with, learning from, and being inspired by James Grant to perpetuate the lessons and fruits of his work," she said.

Ali Attiqa, special envoy for the United Nations Secretary-General, world summit for social development, noted that Dr. Grant had three distinct "great human qualities." These, Dr. Attiqa said, were: ability to make the "victim feel there is someone who really cares and feels the extent of the disaster," to "interact with the international media in his (special) way of passing the right message to the people at large, and to offer an effective leadership.

Dr. Attiqa said he had

travelled with Dr. Grant in August/September 1992 to Somalia as part of a U.N. mission to extend aid to that famine- and warstricken country and was impressed by the way Dr. Grant conducted his work. The delegation was, on the one side," trying to do its own job while Dr. Grant was "equal to the entire delegation put together" in trying to achieve the UN-ICEF mission of caring for

children. Sabah Allawi, UN-ICEF's representative in Lebanon, spoke on behalf of all UNICEF representatives in the Middle East and North Africa. Mr. Allawi said that in 1980, when the UNICEF budget was \$160 million, Dr. Grant had urged that "we have to get into the fourth

"I did not understand then what he meant by that," said Mr. Allawi. But today, when the annual UNICEF budget is nearly \$1 billion, he understands what Dr. Grant meant, he

He said he was so impressed by Dr. Grant that there could be a very efficient UNICEF executive director to succeed Dr. Grant, but there will never

be another Dr. Grant." Sarojini Vittachi, Middle East and North Africa regional director of UN-ICEF, said it was "hard to think of UNICEF without James Grant."

"We celebrate his life, his sense of deep commitment to humanity, his genuine interest for people, UNICEF staff, villagers, street children, heads of state and world leaders,' she said.

The Middle East had a

special link with Dr. Grant in that it was in this region that he tried out many of his innovative ideas to get the UNICEF mission accomplished, Mrs. Vittachi said. These included Dr. Grant's successful efforts to organise "operation Lifeline Sudan" with a firm commitment from both sides of the Sudanese civil war that relief supply convoys would not be disturbed - the 'days of tranquility" in Lebanon— when militia-men put down their guns and took their babies for vaccination — and interventions with the governments of Iraq and Iran during the 1980-88 war and with Baghdad and the international coalition during the war over Kuwait to get relief aid to women and children.

"In his 15 years as UNdirector, more than any other humanitarian leader of our time, Dr. Grant achieved an impact for children throughout the world by the boldness of his vision and the force of his leadership and tenacity in turning that vision into country by country action. said Mrs. Vittachi. "We have a moral and urgent challenge to push ahead in this time of transition and rapid change in the world, and particularly in the Middle East."

Touma Hazou, head of external relations of UN-ICEF in the Middle East and North Africa, served as master of ceremonies at the memorial service, which included an impressive recital of Dr. Grant's favourite music by the orchestra of the National Music Con-

## 1,750 students granted university scholarships for 1994-1995

Special to the Jordan Times total of 4,175 applications re-AMMAN — Nine people were listed in good to fair condition following a road accident Thursday that inceived by the Ministry of Higher Education from students seeking scholarships, the ministry-approved 1,750

volved a private bus headhave been given seats at Joring to Iraq and a trailer in Al Safawi area, near Al dan's state universities for the 1994-1995 academic year. Azraq, according to police According to Ministry of and Civil Defence Depart-Higher Education's Secretary General Ahmad Hisban, the A police official told the students granted scholarships Jordan Times Friday that were chosen from various the accident, which occurgovernorates on the strength red late Thursday, was

of their results. Dr. Hisban said that as of this year, the ministry decided to restrict allocations for scholarships to tuition fees only (previous allocations by the ministry covered living expenses as well).

Dr. Hisban said that the list of names includes needy students who, altogether, constitute 20 per cent of the total number of scholarships.

There are 166 needy students benefiting from the scholarships, of whom 89 will be granted both tuition fees and living allowances as they have been proved by the National Aid Fund (NAF) as deserving the assistance, said

AMMAN (J.T.) — Out of a Dr. Hisban. The remaining number of needy students, proven poor by the Zakat (alms for the poor) Fund and the Oueen Alia Fund for Social Development (QAF), will be given tuition fees only, he added.



The parents, brothers and sisters congratulate their son, and brother Mukaraam Ahmad Muheidat

on his marriage to Donna Stanton

Many congratulations

(Mabrouk)

# Kabariti due in Gaza soon

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Foreign Minister Abdul Karim Kabariti is expected to visit the Palestinian autonomous territories and open a Jordanian interests section in the Gaza Strip this week, official sources said.

Mr. Kabariti, who attended Thursday's summit in Cairo among His Majesty King Hussein, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, will also hold talks with leaders of the Palestinian National Authority (PNA), the sources said.

The sources could not immediately confirm a report that the Foreign Ministry had decided to appoint Ahmad Mbeideen, head of the information section of the ministry, as head of the Gaza interests section. It was also not known

whether Jordan would open a similar office in Jericho, the West Bank enclave that went under Palestinian

autonomy in May. Jordan and the PNA agreed that the Kingdom would open the Gaza interests section in talks held during a visit Mr. Arafat, president of the PNA and

Chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), paid to Amman late last month. According to officials, the office will help follow up the implementation of the agreements that Jordan and the PNA signed during Mr. Arafat's visit. It will also be authorised to autbenticate documents re-

lated to exports and imports

between the Palestinian ter-

ritories and Jordan as well

as other papers such as school certificates. It was not immediately clear whether the office would handle the issuance/ renewal of the two-year passports that Jordan gives to Palestinians as a travel

document. Mr. Kabariti was in Cairo on Friday after attending Thursday's summit. He will be attending Egyptian-Jordanian-Palestinian talks on

displaced Palestinians starting Saturday in the Egyptian capital before returning home on Monday, some re-

ports said. During his visit to the autonomous territories, Mr. Kabariti is also expected to discuss the practical mechanisms for implementing the Jordanian-PNA cooperation agreements. The PNA cabinet as well as the Jordanian Council of Ministers have ratified

the agreements. Jordan will be the fourth Arab country to open an interests section in Gaza. The other three are Egypt. Morocco and Tunisia, which have already launched the offices or are in the process of doing so.

Palestinian sources said the PNA had approached the Cairo-based Arab League to open an office in the Gaza Strip and also to study possibilities of locating branch offices of some of the league affiliate organisations in the strip. It was not immediately known how the Arab League responded to the proposal.

## **Traffic Department launches** tough campaign against violators

By Rana Husseini Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Traffic Department is launching a campaign and increasing their monitoring of roads and highways in an effort to minimise the number of traffic accidents in the Kingdom, according to Major General Moayed Mubaslat, assistant to the director of the Public Security Department (PSD) for traffic affairs

In addition to the traffic campaign, the Traffic Department recently proposed a draft law to amend some of the existing traffic laws, Maj. Gen. Mubaslat said. The stringent traffic mea-

sures come following His Majesty King Husseih's call last month for urgent action to end chaos on the Kingdom's roads. Maj. Gen. Mubaslat told

the Jordan Times that traffic officials will concentrate on "dangerous violations." in addition "to our routine The violations, according

to the official, include checking extra or heavy truck and bus loads, the functionality of the lights and the light reflectors of vehicles, litter being dumped from cars, crossing a red light, driving over the speed limit and wrongful or dangerous overtaking." "The reason we are

focusing on these traffic violations rather than on others is that those violations are more dangerous," Maj. Gen. Mubaslat ex-He said violators will

have their licences taken and if the same violation is repeated, it could lead to the suspension of the driver licence for good. Depending on the nature of the Mubaslat maintained, some motorists could be sent to

"Such violations will result in the suspension of the violators' licence in addition to a high fine and sometimes imprisonment," Maj. Gen. Mubaslat told the Jordan Times Thursday.
The draft law, the result

of concerted efforts of the Ministry of Interior, the PSD and the legislative bureau at the Prime Ministry, is being overviewed and is in its final stages, Maj. Gen. Mubaslat said. "The traffic operation

should be complete and comprehensive, and the new proposed law, if approved, will help accomplish the comprehensive traffic operation." he said.

According to Maj. Gen. Mubaslat, one of the most important issues in the draft law is imposing the point system, that, he said, will count the number of violations by a motorist which could lead to the suspension of his/her licence after a certain number of points.

Moreover, he said, the draft law suggested strengthening the punishment of some of the violations. He would not elaborate on the type of violations. "We also stressed on the

importance to conduct a study on group transportation, and imposing a system for motorists to control their working hours and wages," he said. The Traffic Department

also called on the Ministry of Education to include traffic education in its curriculum, he said. One new measure stipulates that fines for running a

red light will be JD 50 to

The draft law suggests three months to one year jail terms for violations such as fleeing the scene of an accident, while driving intoxicated, using forged

number plates and driving

with a suspended licence. In addition, the proposed law suggested imposing higher fines, of up to JD 200, for wrongful overtaking, speeding and disposing of litter, oil, solid and other materials while driving. Repeated violations, death-related accidents and driving while intoxicated will lead to the suspension of the driving licence and jail terms in

some cases. If the draft law is approved, the traffic official said, it will be presented to a ministerial committee for consideration and approval, then will be sent to the Cabinet and Parliament for approval.

Last year's traffic statistics indicate that 443 people were killed in road accidents in the Kingdom, which also injured 12,516 people in 26,837 road accidents.

The reason for the increase in the number of accidents is the increase in the number of vehicles and people, Maj. Gen. Mubaslat explained, adding that lack of traffic education among motorists, and the old age of some of the vehicles operating also contributed to the numbers.

According to the official. there was an increase of 15,000 vehicles in 1994 over the previous figure. In addition, he said that 90 per cent of the vehicles operating in the Kingdom were made between the years 1959 to 1985.

## Over JD29m allocated for investment in Amman area

government has approved the JD29,484,793 capital expenditure for the Amman Govemorate for the year 1995, according to Amman Governor Talaat Al Nawaiseh.
In an interview with the

Jordanian News Agency, Petra, Mr. Nawaiseh said the capital expenditure budget will cover a number of pro-

Mr. Nawaiseh said other development projects will be carried out through loans and grants allocated for in the state budget.

These projects include education and training at a cost of JD4 million, the third Urban Development Project which will be carried out at a cost of one million dinars,

Tlaa Al Ali telecommunication project which will be carried out at a cost of JD1.5 million, a hazardous and poisonous waste dumping site at Suwaqa, at a cost of JD2 millions, Wadi Seer water network improvement and sewage treatment plant, at a cost of one million dinars, in addition to other small-scale

# JOB OPPORTUNITY

A Leading office equipment company in Jordan is in need of one software programmer with the following qualifications:

\* C programming in a UNIX environment. Knowledge of installing upgrades to UNIX and performing administrative tasks is essential, Approx, 4 years application experience is preferable.

C/C++ in a Windows programming environment, approx, 2 years application experience is preferable.

Working with INFORMIX in a client server application. Approx, 2 years application experience is preferable.

\* General knowledge of Arabization in the Windows environment. \* A BS degree in computer science from a West European or

U.S. university is preferable-not essential.

Applicants should send their CV's with a recent personal photo to P.O.Box 383 Amman 11118 - Jordan.

\* Excellent command of spoken and written English and Arabic

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# JORDAN TIMES, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY & WORLD

# Diplomats agree on terms for Peru-Ecuador ceasefire

(AP) - Negotiators for Peru and Ecuador agreed Friday morning on ceasefire terms to halt nine days of fighting in a disputed section of jungle on their border, Brazil's acting foreign minister said.
"We reached an accord

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that was approved by everyone," an elated Sebastiao Do rego Barros, Brazil's acting foreign minister, said when the session ended.

Mr. Barros did not give details of the agreement but said it had been sent to the governments of Ecuador and Peru for study.

Mr. Barros said the delegates would meet again Fri-day afternoon "when we hope to receive final approval of the accord and we can put an end to this senseless war. Peru and Ecuador each ac-

cused the other of starting the fighting, which broke out in earnest on Jan. 26, by crossing into the disputed territory, a 50-mile (80-kilometre) stretch of jungle-covered Cordillera Del Condor Mountains 530 miles (850 kilometres) north of Lima. The area contains gold, ura-nium and possibly oil de-

Each side has given conflicting accounts of casualties, but at least dozens of soldiers have been killed in the fighting in the disputed area.

The ceasefire agreement came at the end of a third straight all-night session at Itamaraty Palace, the Foreign Ministry's office in Rio De Janeiro. Delegates from Brazil,

Chile, Argentina and the United States — the guarantor nations of the 1942 treaty that set the Peru-Ecuador border after a war - took part in the

"For the first time since the beginning we worked together the whole night, with all six representatives at the table," Mr. Barros said. Although President Sixto Duran-Ballen of Ecuador



This photo released by the Ecuadorean army shows a group of Ecuadorean troops positioned outside the Amazonian town of Soldado Monge near the Peruvian border, Ecuadorean and Peruvian forces have been fighting at the frontier between their two countries since Jan. 26 over a border dispute (AFP photo)

proposed a ceasefire Tuesday and President Alberto Fujimori of Peru made a counter-offer Wednesday, diplomats couldn't agree on the

Julio Freyre, an Argentine diplomat, said Thursday that Ecuador had agreed to Peru's demands of a demilitarised zone along the border with independent observers.

But he said the Peruvians were the greater sticklers for details, such as how far and how fast troops must pull back from the combat zone. The two remained in separate rooms at the palace,

while delegates of the other

countries acted as go-

betweens. They finally agreed to sit at the same table Meanwhile, Peruvian starting the fighting by crossing into its territory.
Ecuador announced Thurs-

day it was moving navy units into positions along its coast. Peruvian officials have said previously that Peru had ships and submarines deployed off its coast, near Ecuador.

Ecuador called Peru's ship movements "an obvious threat and coercion," against

Peru's army and navy are about double the size of Ecuador's according to fi-gures published in Peruvian newspapers.

Gen. Hermoza, the Peruvian commander, said that Peruvian units succeeded Thursday in ousting Ecuadorean forces from a military post known as Base Sur. He described Peru's continuing military actions as aimed at definitively removing the troops that could still remain infiltrated in (Peru's) zones.'

But Ecuador, which claims the bases are on its side of the border, said its forces "remained unmovable."

In Cumana, Venezuela, where he was attending a South American presidential summit, Ecuadorean President Sixto Duran-Ballen said his country's forces had lost six soldiers and two were missing. He told reporters he might go home early to direct his country's defence.

Mr. Fujimori did not arrive at the summit Thursday, but he might get there Friday, Venezuelan Information Minister Guillermo Alvarez told reporters.

Former U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, Mr. Fujimori's main rival in April's presidential election, entered the fray Wednesday, he said Peru could not let Ecuadorean troops remain on its soil during a ceasefire because it might never be able to reclaim the territory after-

Kidnappers

MOSCOW (AFP) - A Rus-

sian legislator with links to

this country's freewheeling

business community was

found slain with a bullet

wound in the neck Thursday

after being kidnapped from a

bar, the news agency ITAR-

Sergei Skoroshkin, 34. an

independent member of the

State Duma, had been

abducted Wednesday night

by four men armed with sub-

machine guns who were pos-

ing as policemen when they

entered the bar at Zaraisk.

Mr. Skoroshkin, a

businessman who won elec-

tion to the Duma in Decem-

ber 1993, made headlines last

year when he shot and killed

a man who had allegedly shot

at him, as well as a woman

who got in the line of fire.

Proceedings against him were

halted on grounds that he had

al Democratic Party later

claimed that Mr. Skorosh-

kin's murder was revenge for

remarks made by its leader

The ultra-nationalist Liber-

acted in self-defence.

Russian --

deputy

TASS reported.

near Moscow.

kill

# Clinton picks new surgeon general

WASHINGTON (AP) -President Bill Clinton general, an obstetriciar 🖫 🗀 🔾 founded a programme that distributes condoms to youths and who supported an organisation that provides abortion counseling.

Henry Foster Jr. would replace Joycelin Eldes, fired by Mr. Clinton for outspoken remarks tht riled conservatives.

In an Oval Office address, Mr. Clinton ordered Dr. Foster to "help America attack the epidemic of teen pregnancies and unmarried pre-gnancies." He said the surgeon general is "the public face of our public health ser-

Dr. Foster promised to emphasise prenatal care. along with teenage prenancy. There is nothing more stifling than a compromised beginning," he said. Mr. Clinton promised no

new money for a teen pregnancy campaing and said he hopes private business will help. Aides say few new initiatives are involved but that Mr. Clinton hopes to increase the issue's visibility. Administration officials predicted that Dr. Foster, a

Tennessee doctor with ties to Mr. Clinton's native Arkanasas, would be less controversial than Dr. Elders. Dr. Elders' was fired in December after saying school

children should be taught about masturbation. Her support for distributing contraceptives to students and her strong abortion-rights views also drew criticism Elders-lite." Dr. Foster drew Mr. Clin-

U.S. President Bill Clinton (right) looks on as his nominee for

U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Henry Foster Jr. speaks during

ceremonies at the White House (AFP photo)

from conservatives. At least one critic disagreed that Dr. Foster will escape such flaps. "The president is making another mistake, and it's my hope that the Senate will not," said the Senate will not. Gary Bauer, president of Family Research Council, a conservative think tank and lobbying group.
"Dr. Foster appears to be

ton's attention by working to reduce teenage preganancy rates in public housing de-

velopments of his hometown. Nashville, Tennessee. He is a former dean and acting president of Meharry Medical College in Nashville, one of four historically black medical schools in the United States, and also attended uni-

got too little attention at property of a million property. He smashed his in the western San House the mary receded and dikes in the western San House the mary receded and dikes in the western San House the mary receded and dikes in the western San House the mary receded and dikes in the western San House the mary receded and dikes in the western San House the mary receded and discount of the market of the mar inside Sahlgrenska Honita in the western Swedish ton of Goteborg about 5 a.n. the man — whose wife patient — found the recen tion area empty except to one surprised person. O the television people man shouted from his carcording to the Swedin News Agency (TT). The onlooker, however answered that he preferred to call the police. So the intrad er put his car in reverse and backed out the same way he entered, TT reported. Police tracked the man from the car license plate and arrested him a few hours later at his hour where he was waiting. Pole said he was angry at the lack of attention at the hospit for his seriously ill wife, T said. The man, whose na was not released, will like be charged with damage

#### **Evel Knievel** wins suit against hotel

property, he will be required to pay the 100,000 krono (\$13,300) repair bill, TI said

SPOKANE, Washington (R - Evel Knievel, the daredevil who built a caree on his reputation for feature ness, convinced a jury thun day that he had been "scare to death" when an old friend attacked him in a hotel room After a week-long civil trail . jury in Spokane County Superior Court ordered the Ridpath Hotel to pay the former motorcycle stuntus about \$50,000 for its responsibility in the 1989 attack, which occurred after a dek clerk handed the key to Mr. Knievel's room to his some time drinking buddy Clarence Paulsen. On the winess stand last week, Mr. Knevel. 56, who became famous i the 1970s for leaping over rows of buses and other obstacles astride his motorcycle, testified that he had been "sacred to death" by the fight and haunted by periodi nightmares ever since. The jury awarded Mr. Knievel a

total of \$72,500 for lost wages, expenses, and pain and suffering. But it held that the hotel was responsible for only 70 per cent of the award. According to trial testimon given by oth Mr. Paulsen and Mr. Knievel, Mr. Paulsen used the key to enter the tenth-floor room, when he found Knievel in bed with Mr. Paulsen's former girl friend. Mr. Knievel admitte to being in bed with Mr. Paulsen's ex-girlfriend, but accused Mr. Paulsen of attacking him, leaving him with a bloody nose and bruises. Mr. Knievel said be believed he would have bee killed had he not grabbe Mr. Paulsen's .357-calibre n volver and aimed it, withou shooting, at his attacker. M Paulsen, who has since be convicted of cocaine traffid

#### Aquino's unwed pregnant daughter to quit showbiz

ing and is in jail awaiti

sentencing, denied attack

Mr. Knievel and said he k

the room after discoveri

the couple in bed.

MANULA (AFP) — Form President Corazon Aqua unwed daughter will of showbiz in an attempt avoid the continuing scans over her pregnancy by a ma-ried man twice her age, manager said. Kris Aquan will not renew the contrafor her television talk she when it expires next we manager Lolit Solis said "She wants to be totally of of the limelight," said Soll who added that Kris crying when she talked to her. The younger Aquino also starred in severe movies. Kris, who will be on Feb. 14, caused a nation wide scandal when she admit ted carrying the child of movie action star Phillip Salvador, who has three children by his wife and a fourth by another mistress.

#### Hungary: Potatoes wanted

BUDAPEST (AFP) - Hom gary is to give an import allowance for potatoes, which became more expersive than oranges recently due to a 17 per cent crop drop this year and free prices ports here said. Hungary. potato grower whose can is largely based on this veget able, is to allow imports of 30,000 tonnes of potatoes

# Leaky thruster jeopardises U.S. shuttle's rendezvous with Russians

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida (AFP) — A thruster on the space shuttle Discovery began leaking shortly after liftoff early Friday, jeopardis-ing a programmed rendez-vous with the Soviet-made Mir space station, NASA Discovery blasted off on an

eight-day mission with NASA's first female pilot and a Russian cosmonaut at 12:22 a.m. (0522 GMT) after a 24-hour delay due to problems with a navigational unit that had to be replaced. Shortly after the spacecraft reached orbit, however, two

of its 38 steering jets failed, with one of them leaking slightly, said shuttle manager Loren Shriver. He said the leaking thruster could force Discovery's six-member crew to sh . . ff all three jets in that section,

rendezvous with the orbiting Mir station. But he added: "There might be ways to work around that."

disrupting Monday's planned

The leaking jet has been positioned facing the Sun in the hope of melting any frozen fuel that might obstruct the thruster value, a procedure that has worked for similar situations in the past, Mr. Shriver said.

In case the three jets have to be shut down, he said, Discovery would get no closer than 300 metres (1,000 feet) from the orbiting space station, rather than 10 metres (30 feet) as planned. The rendezvous at some

392 kilometres (240 miles) above Earth is the cornerstone of Discovery's eightday mission.

It would allow the astronauts to photograph the space station from all angles in preparation for an actual docking of a Mir and U.S. shuttle in June 1995 as part of a joint U.S.-Russian prog-

"This mission is going to be ... the toughest thing we've ever done since Apollo," NASA Administrator Daniel Goldin said before liftoff.

In 1975, an Apollo space craft docked with a Russian Soyuz ship in orbit. In all, eight shuttle trips

are planned to the Mir space station through 1997 before the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) starts building an

international space station with help from Russia and other countries. The six-member shuttle

crew under the command of James Wetherbee includes Air Force Lieutenant Colonel Eileen Collins, NASA's first woman shuttle pilot, Russian Cosmonaut Vladimir Titov, Bernard Harris, Michael Foale and Janice



The space shuttle Discovery lifts-off from Kennedy Space Centre's launch pad 39B on its way to orbit early Friday (AFP

## Southern Africans urge aid donors: 'Don't cut us adrift' Coordination Conference:

Malawian President Bakili Muluzi urged European and other donor countries not to "cut us adrift onto the high seas." when he opened a conference of the regional southern African Development Community (SADC) here Friday.

"We must express alarm at any move to cut us adrift into the high seas. We know that some of our donors are under political and other pressures to cut aid. We urge them not to abandon us in this hour of need." Mr. Muluzi said.

The SADC, grouping 11 countries in southern Africa, was bolstered last year by the arrival of its one-time main opponent South Africa after multi-racial elections there in

Set up in 1979 as the Southern African Development

UNITED NATIONS (AP)

- The secretary-general has

proposed sending some 7,000

peacekeepers to back up a

peace accord for Angola,

saying a November agree-

ment to end two decades of

civil war has generally held.

Escorting humanitarian aid convoys in the devastated

southwest African country

would be part of the force's

mission, U.N. chief Boutros

Ghali said in a report to the

The Council is expected to

Security Council.

the re-named SADC was origionally aimed at harmonising development plans and reducing the region's economic dependence on South Africa.

Speaking for SADC's main financial backers in the European Union, French prime ministerial aide Roger Romani pledged to continue helping the region in the recent trend towards peace, stability and economic development. With the end of apartheid, elections in Mozambique and

a tentative peace process in Angola, the situation in southern Africa is looking more promising than in vears. Mr. Romani said the EU

had been impressed with the democratic changes in the re-

"The European Union is

lions of roughly 1,000 troops

each to be sent to Angola within three months, beefing

up a U.N. presence of some

ensure that the peace

accord's terms are carried

out, including the disarming

of UNITA rebels who have

fought the government for control of the country since

independence from Portugal

lans died as a result of the

More than 500,000 Ango-

The U.N. force will try to

300 military observers

confidence in the future of the region. We aree imprressed by the achievement and we want to do more in bi-lateral relations," he said.

forces advanced on Ecuado-

rean positions and claimed to

have overrun an army out-

post, even as the two coun-

tries appeared to reach a

preliminary ceasefire accord

in their jungle border war.

der Gen. Nicolas Hermoza

Thursdav said 49 soldiers —

43 of the Ecuadoreans - had

been killed in the last two

confirmed the fighting,

saying Peruvian troops laun-

ched morning attacks against

various border posts. But it

said only one Ecuadorean

was wounded and one was

The conflicting reports

were indicative of the week-

long war, in which each coun-

try has accused the other of

The Ecuadorean military

days of skirmishes.

Peruvian military comman-

The EU spent about \$15 billion between 1990 and 13.4 c . . . and development projects in the SADC region. Mr. Muluzi said that while the ultimate goal was to reduce dependence on foreign aid, SADC would not be able to meet all its financial requirements for development from its own limited re-

"Our success will depend on the continued understanding, good will and support from our donors," he said. His remarks followed in-

dications by some donors that they want SADC to participate in funding their own

U.N. seeks 7,000 peacekeepers for Angola have more than 200,000 troops under arms. The peacekeepers would also help remove some 10 million land mines and unex-

ploded shells littering Ango-Dr. Ghali said the Nov. 22 ceasefire "has been generally

holding' But in his report he warned that peacekeepers would be pulled out quickly if the country slides back toward

civil war. "For the international community, there are obvious risks involved investing a new peacekeeping opera-tion in Angola," he said.

# Prosecution witnesses seek to tear down Simpson

LOS ANGELES (R) - He beat her, dreamed of killing her and seemed unfazed by her death, witnesses say, but in the first week of trial testimony, O.J. Simpson's jury has yet to see a shred of physical evidence linking him to his ex-wife's murder.

chilling presentation, prosecutors have first set out to tear down Simpson's all-American nice-guy image and replace it with the portrait of raging, wife-beating bully with a 'fatal obses-SION.

attention Thursday to a 1003 recording of a Nicole Brown Simpson frantically pleading for help from an emergency operator while in the background the former football great yelled and cursed at

They heard one witness, an ex-police officer and longtime friend, recall sitting with Simpson the day after the June 12 murders and seeing no sign of sadness as be watched TV footage of the bodies of his ex-wife and her friend Ron Goldman being removed from the crime

And on a giant TV screen, jurors saw handwritten letters to then-wife Nicole apologising for hurting her in a 1989 incident in which police found her in the bushes, bruised, battered and hysterical, crying "he's going to kill

Prosecutors promise more gripping testimony Friday, when Nicole's raven-haired sister Denise Brown, who has already told talk-show audience she has no doubt of Simpson's guilt, is called to further detail an alleged his-

Simpson has pleaded not guilty to the murders, and his defence attorneys contend that his marriage to Nicole was merely "bumpy" like many others.

The prosecution's bold murder case against someone; as famous and as popular as

Once his celebrity aura is lifted, experts say, it is only a matter of time before jurors

opher Darden said Nicole Brown Simpson feared for her life and left a trail for investigators in a bank safe deposit box.

that it would happen at the hands of the defendant," Darden said.

Among the items found locked away at a Los Angeles bank were her will, three letters from Simpson, polaroid pictures of her bruised and battered face and newspaper clippings about her on Jan. 1, 1989 beating by her then-husband.

In letters laced with spell-

ing and grammatical errors, he apologised profusely for hitting her, saying "I only hope I didn't screw it up with this crazy drunken incident."

Ronald Shipp, who said he was friend of both Simpsons, testified that while watching TV coverage of the case with the former football great at his mansion the night after the murders, he saw no sign of sadness or a sense of loss. Instead, what he saw was anger at the news coverage that he was actually being accused of murdering Nicole and Ron," Mr. Shipp testi-

Mr. Shipp had previously testified that on that same night, Simpson confided in him that he had dreams about killing Nicole Brown Simp-SOD.

Under cross-examination Thursday, defence lawyers continued hammering away at Mr. Shipp's credibility, casting doubt on his claims, contending he was only trying to boost his acting career and elicting admissions from his that he had a drinking prob-

# hospital door

Is flood wate (AP) — A man who a portedly thought his ill authorities began Frigor too little attention at hospital formed authorities of a million hospital formed the country's worst moods in sentury receded and dikes yentury receded and dikes would the eastern lowlands sand the eastern towards appared to be holding out.

Although the government Although the phil have so Although the government of the property of volume agriculture of volume agriculture. pratened lowland areas.

In the property of th Rulway connections and

gailway connections and sations which were closed sations in the affected areas gen also expected to reopen

Ministry spokes-Interior Rob said Mon-Herbert Rob said Monby was the earliest possible gum date but he warned that the fragility of saturated mer dikes meant the threat of catastrophe had not dis-

opeared.
The peak waters have assed and we appear to be desire towards safety but har should not be intergeted as meaning that the danger of the dikes collapsing passed. he said.
Structurally it's very hard

may how much damage has ben done and if there is the dighest suggestion that any of the dikes are not stable people will not be allowed The swollen Rhine inbu-

ay, the Waal, was receding athe rate of two centimetres (minch) an hour but Interior Minister Hans Dijksta wanted that this presented new dangers for the sodde: sand-and-grass dams. "The dikes are so saturated

we don't know long they can resist. If the water level goe down too quickly there is danger of landslides. In Infrared photograph

taken by Dutch Air force f-16 jets have revealed ex tensive shifts in the interna structure of the dikes alon

# Polls favou

ROME (AFP) - Ex-Prime Minister Silvio Berluscon night-wing alliance wou form the next government an Italian general electi-were held now, an opini

poll said Friday. The report, to be publish in the weekly Panoral Saturday, came as press ports tipped econom Romano Prodi to lead a n centre-left alliance to ch lenge Mr. Berlusconi as country's political camps g up for early elections. The opinion poll, care out among 1,700 electors

## Balladur, S

Jan. 30 and 31, said that

PARIS (R) — French Pr Minister Edouard Balls and new European Com sioner President Jacques ter found some com ground on the vexed issu broadcasting quotas European television sta Friday, aides said.

French leaders, ada

about protecting their

diovisual industry fro flood of cheap Holly productions, clashed Mr. Santer after he said interview last week quotas were temporary unsatisfactory expedien But after they met I as part of day-long tall tween the commission the Paris governmer France's six-month EU

idency, aides said the found some agreeme ways to promote the pean audiovisua: secto The prime minister led out clearly French minatison to achiev both a programme to s European audiovisua

### without borders' di Death tol

ductions and a 'tel-

TOKYO (Agencie Japanese police said that the confirmed de in the Kobe earthqua jumped ot 5,243 as bereaved by the disast pleted the formalities istering their dead. The toil could i further as police are c death certificates bei for about 100 other spokesman said. Six people were s sing as of Friday. A 26,807 people were in the earthquake. worst disaster since Great Kanto earthqu led 140,000 in To

About 103,000 hc buildings were dest Kobe and surround

Yokohama.

# approve the force next week. civil war. UNITA - an U.N. member countries have acronyum for the National already pledged the needed Union for the Total Independence of Angola — and The plan calls for six battathe government together

BRITISH ACTOR DIES: File photo dated Palace. Pleasence died at his home in France at Marcy 29, 1994 of British actor Donald Plea- the age of 75, his agent announced Thursday sence with his wife Linda, after he received the (AFP photo) Order of the British Empire at Buckingham

### Vladimir Zhirinovsky at a Council of Europe meeting in Strasbourg, Interfax News Agency reported.

Instead, in a vivid, often

Jurors listened with rapt

tory of domestic violence.

strategy defies the traditional approach in a murder trials presenting forensic and medical evidence and then building a theory for motive. But legal analysis say it may be the only way to launch a Simpson.

start seeing such crucial evidence as the infamous bloody gloves and socks that prosecutors must use to link simpson to the murder scene. in a display of courtroom theatre Thursday, Deputy District Attorney Christ-

"Nicole Brown, at the tender age of 30, in 1990, believed something bad was going to happen to her, and

# hospital doo Dutch breathe easier

STOCKHOLM Dutch breatne easier.

Portedly thought as flood waters recede got too little and the remedy. He shall day preparing the return through the front home of a quarter of a million in the western shall evacuees as rivers swollen by of Guteborg shall evacuees as ri

one surprised personal for letting residents return to the television personal according to the Although the government insisted no date had been set for letting residents return to threatened lowland areas, wews Agency (11) students have been put on standby to help farmers organization of their family the return of their family from More onlooker (i) standby to help a standby to help a

en red Trepore: s were also expected to reopen Monday.

icense plate and man for ficense plate and aner a few inours laterate. Where he was waited to his seriously at for his seriously in said. The man, who was not released, it he charged with the property, he will be to pay the will be to property. Interior Ministry spokesman Herbert Rob said Monday was the earliest possible return date but he warned that the fragility of saturated river dikes meant the threat of catastrophe had not disappeared.

(\$13.3(M)) repair big.7 "The peak waters have passed and we appear to be edging towards safety but that should not be interpreted as meaning that the danger of the dikes collapsing

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has passed," he said.
"Structurally it's very hard to say how much damage has been done and if there is the slightest suggestion that any of the dikes are not stable people will not be allowed

The swollen Rhine tributary, the Waal, was receding at the rate of two centimetres (an inch) an hour but Interior Minister Hans Dijkstal warned that this presented new dangers for me sodden sand-and-grass dams.

"The dikes are so saturated we don't know long they can resist. If the water level goes down too quickly there is a danger of landslides," he

Infrared photographs taken by Dutch Air force F-16 jets have revealed extensive shifts in the internal structure of the dikes along the Waal, which means any sudden change could result in them either collapsing internally like a failed souffle or

Fine, dry weather across the country since Wednesday has encouraged hopes that the critical point had passed, but also provoked fears of a wave of people prematurely returning to the danger

However authorities report relatively few people attempting to go back to the zones which have been sealed off by nolice.

"Anvone who tries to return will be sent back," Mr. Rob said. In most of the endangered

villages, handfulls of people resisted the order to leave. Police did not force them but some were asked to sign disclaimers accepting responsibility for the risk.

The biggest group of resistance was in the village of Bove-Hardinxveld, where 400 people stubbornly refused to budge. A dusk-to-dawn curfew was imposed but the local authorities did not force the issue.

Since the bulk of evacuees are lodged with friends and family, there is no particular reason for them to rush back. For those who were obliged to seek refuge in government centres, the experi-

ence has been much tougher. "Boredom is beginning to set in now. We've got a lot of bleary-eyed people this morning," said Dianne Westerink, a coordinator of the

evacuation centre in Utrecht. "The children are coping the best. One of the mothers told me ber kids were having the time of their lives," she said. "The longer they don't have to go back to school the better for them.'

Like most of the centres, the one at Utrecht has not been filled. It had facilities for 3,000 people but has only been a

third full on its busiest night.

Some 250 people left Thurs-

not as unpredictable as in the low-lying Polder areas to the As the ground on the sides of the River Maas is higher

(AFP photo)

day as more families in the

area came forward with

offers to lodge the evacuees.

around Limbourg, several

hundred people have aiready

returned to their homes and

begun the process of cleaning

only one to be actually under

water, the situation there is

Although this area is the

In the south of the country,

than the river, there is not the potential for a sudden deluge caused by a dike giving away. The community spirit shown by the thousands who

have offered lodging to eva-

government amid acrimony in December, has meanwhile

collapsed to 3.5 per cent, the

poll showed. The party

cuees was reflected in the response to a television appeal Thursday for funds to belp the victims.

Dutch Queen Beatrix (left) visits the region between the rivers

Mass and Wasl looking at partly flooded houses of the city of

Tiel. Tiel was a ghost town overnight, empty of its 34,000

inhabitants who fled the threat of floodwaters from the River

Waal bursting through nearby dikes to drown the countryside

By Friday morning a total of 35 million gilders (\$20.6 million) had been pledged. Prime Minister Wim Kok has promised to double any contributions from the public.

Fears that the abandoned homes would be hit by opportunistic burglars have not materialised. Police have reported only four burglaries in the deserted region around the town of Tiel and have made four arrests.

Queen Beatrix spent a second day touring the floodthreatened zones and talking with emergency crews and

In the opposing camp, for-

mer Christian Democrat Pro-

di, meanwhile told Italian

newspapers in an interview

that he was considering run-

ning at the head of a centre-

"It is no mystery that I've

been thinking about it for

months," he said in his office

at the centre of economic

studies in Bologna, which he

heads, adding that he would

cent of the vote.

left grouping.

# NATO gets first look at new units in east Germany

KLIETZ, Germany (R) -NATO political leaders got their first look at the alliance's new units in eastern Germany Friday when German forces staged mock air and land attacks on an imaginary enemy.

NATO Secretary-General Willy Claes, German De-fence Minister Volker Ruehe and representatives of other alliance countries watched at this former east German base as 1,200 Bundeswehr soldiers and airmen flexed their military muscle.

Claes, on his first visit to Germany since succeeding the late Manfred Woemer as NATO chief last year, said: "Another vestige of the divided Germany is gone. All of Germany is now protected by the alliance."

"I am glad to see the newest NATO troops opening a new era of cooperation," he said at the base where former Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev and Fast German leader Erich Honecker had once observed Warsaw Pact manoeuvres.

In his speech at the base east of Porsdam, Mr. Ruehe said: "The units here have reached the standards of proficiency and readiness of the forces in the west. "They are well trained,

well equipped and highly motivated to contribute to the alliance and they are prepared to take on the same missions and risks in international crisis management as their fellow soldiers in

Under the 1990 "two-plusfour" treaty that paved the way for German unity, Germany stayed in NATO but agreed to keep its soldiers in the formerly Communist east initially out of the alliance's integrated command.

With last year's departure of Russian troops from the former east Germany and

allied troops from West Berlin, these units came under NATO control at the start of 1995. Germany has around 60.000 soldiers in the area.

Mr. Claes began the day in Bonn with a meeting with Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel. He told reporters afterwards that the Western alliance would decide on political grounds which of its former Warsaw Pact adversaries could become members and it was anxious not to isolate Russia.

NATO had not reached the stage of considering which former Communist countries could join and when and that this decision would not be based simply on whether they fulfilled certain membership conditions. "We are not preparing just a list of criteria. Enlargement is a political decision," he said.

A country that did not fulfill all conditions could still be admitted. "This is perfectly

Many countries in Eastern Europe are keen to shelter under NATO's security umbrella, but Russia has said it could not tolerate the expansion of the alliance up to its own borders.

Mr. Claes said the hoped NATO would conclude its internal discussions on the mechanics of enlargement by September and then ask the 16 heads of government to make a decision on the next steps at a summit in Decem-

Russia would be kept informed of NATO's plans, which the alliance chief said would bring Moscow more security.

"We have no secrets. We are in favour of transparency," he added. "We are not trying to isolate Russia. If necessary, I will sing this song every day again in order to convince Moscow that we have good intentions."

to marry him when he has

served his term for firearms

offences later this year. The

couple have never met. The release was designed

to keep the year-old Anglo-

Irish peace plan alive after it was seriously threatened by the leak of a document pur-

porting to detail the partners'

the document showed the

two governments were plan-

ning to set up powerful cross-

border bodies which would

bring the two neighbours

closer than at any time since

Britain partitioned the island

will never relinquish

sovereignty, have made

veiled threats to bring down

Prime Minister John Major s

minority government unless

the plan is watered down.

12 ey fear that Britain and

eland are secretly hatching

plans to loosen the province's

British ties and that Dublin is

using its role in the peace

process to win-back Northern

Ireland, which its constitu-

Unionists, who say they

seven decades ago.

The Times of London said

next steps.

### Burmese monk sees **Aung San** Suu Kyi

RANGOON (AFP) - A Buddhist monk who helped initiate talks between the Burmese government and dissident Aung San Suu Kyi said Friday that both sides had told him they wanted to continue a dialogue begun last year.

Rewatta Dhamma, 66, a Burmese monk resident in Birmingham, England, told reporters before leaving Rangoon that he finally was allowed to meet Aung San Suu Kyi - who has been under house arrest here since July 1989 — Monday.

I did not come here on a political mission and have not tried to influence either side one way or the other," he said. "I can only pray that as good Buddhists, they will look upon each other with compassion and settle their differences amicably."

Rewatta said both Ms. Aung San Suu Kyi and the military government had explained their positions to him and "both sides expressed willingness to continue with

the dialogue." The monk said Ms. Aung San Suu Kyi told him she had outlined her stance in the statement that her husband. British academic Michael Aris carried to the outside world last month after visiting her over Christmas.

In it she said she remained committed to the cause of democracy and had not struck any deals with the iunta.

Rewatta said he met twice this trip with senior General Than Shwe, the junta chief, and five times with Lieute-nant General Khin Nyunt, the junta's first secretary. Ms. Aung San Suu Kyi and

the generals did not go into details during their two meetings, last September and in October, Rewatta said. But he said the dialogue has potential for success since the two sides can meet again at any time.

Although the monk was believed to have been instrumental in persuading the generals to meet the dissident for talks, Rewatta insisted he was not really a mediator in

the proceedings.
"I feel that there is a crisis in the nation and as the people are suffering, it would be remiss of me as a practising Buddhist to ignore it completely and not try to inter-vene," he said.

Meanwhile, refugees said Friday, Burmese troops are forcing hundreds of civilians to act as human shields when attacking insurgents along the Thai border. The charges were among a

barrage of accusations from the United States, human rights groups and others -- against the Burmese military over its human rights record. The refugees, among the

15,000 who have fled across the border seeking sanctuary in Thailand, said the military junta also was forcing civilians to carry their weapons and supplies in combat zones. Amnesty International, the London-based rights group, condemned the reports of forced portering, charging that scores of those who have escaped had been beaten and mistreated by the junta.

Burma has denied such accusations, saying it is helping to develop poverty-stricken rural areas inhabited by ethnic minorities and restore democracy to the coun-

#### **Ireland frees 5 IRA convicts** peace that has existed in met O'Neill but was hoping

DUBLIN (R) - Ireland freed five IRA prisoners Friday in a disputed gesture of clemency to keep the Northern Ireland peace process on track at a critical stage.

Pamela Kane, the only jailed female Irish Republican Army prisoner in Ire-land, walked out of Limerick Prison in southwestern Ireland with a clenched fist salute almost three years before she was due to end a 10-year term for robbery.

She was the fifth IRA prisoner released Friday in a goodwill gesture by the Dubin government to reward the IRA's landmark ceasefire last September to its 25-year war against British rule of Northern Ireland.

Earlier, four IRA men jailed for firearms possession left Port Laoise maximum security prison 40 miles (60 km) south of Dublin around two years before they were due to be freed.

"We are endeavouring to ensure that the opportunity for peace on this island is built upon." Irish Foreign Minister Dick Spring told Northern Ireland radio.

He said the gesture, strongly condemned by Northern Ireland Protestants and viewed unfavourably by the London government, was intended to reinforce the

Northern Ireland since the IRA and its pro-British Protestant loyalist foes declared ceasefires six months ago.

'Everybody values the ceasefire and the end of the killing. I think now it is important that we make sure that it (the end of killing) is permanent," Mr. Spring said. The move was welcomed

by Sinn Fein, the IRA's political arm, which called on Britain to reverse a refusal to grant a similar amnesty to hundreds of prisoners on its But it was denounced as

capitulation by Northern Ireland's Protestant legislators, who fear the peace effort is nudging the province towards reunification with Ireland. "It's giving in to terror-ism," said the Ulster Union-

ist Party's David Trimble.

"It's a bribe and the problem with bribes is that people will always ask for more. The four men freed Friday were to have been released by the end of next year while Ms. Kane, jailed for robbery,

would have ended her sentence at the end of 1997. She was expected to marry an IRA activist, Martin O'Neill, who is in jail in Northern Ireland, after a three-year correspondence.

tion claims. Britain refuses to grant

amnesty to gunmen from either the IRA, which has fought to end British rule, or loyalist guerrilla groups which have waged a bloody

## Manila marks wartime destruction

Ms. Kane, 30, has never

friends said.

MANILA, Philippines (AP) - The crackle of gunfire echoed from loudspeakers Friday and students dressed as U.S. soldiers led "prisoners" to freedom as Manila commemorated its World War II liberation and des-

truction. The U.S. 1st Cavalry Division entered the city on Feb. 3, 1945, setting off a monthlong battle in which about 18,000 U.S. and Japanese

soldiers were killed. But 100,000 civilians also died and the city was des-troyed in one of the great tragedies of the pacific theatre.

The ceremonies were delaved for nearly two hours by

rain, which prevented President Fidel Ramos from returning from a war commemoration in Tagaytay, 30 miles (50 kilometres) to the south, where the U.S. 511th Parachute Regiment landed to cut off the capital.

"We commemorate this event, not to turn victims against past oppressors but to remind ourselves that whoever is involved, war is the most evil invention of man," Mr. Ramos, a former general, told the crowd. "We cherish peace and the memory of those who died for it.'

About 3,000 people, mostly students and about 50 Americans, gathered for the ceremony at the University of Santo Tomas, where American and other allied civilians were detained during the 212 year Japanese occupation.

guerrilla war to maintain it.

After entering the city at sunset, the 1st Cavalry Division sped down the broad avenues and after a brief but fierce firefight, burst into the campus, freeing about 3,700 civilians. The Philippines was at the time an American commonwealth.

The Filipino guerrilla who guided the American troops, Capt. Manuel Colayco, was killed. In Friday's ceremony, student-actors re-enacted the attack, "killing" Japanese defenders and leading actorinternees to safety.

#### the Mediterranean states one of quotas. ter found some common nels," an aide to Mr. Balla-

and new European Commissioner President Jacques Sanground on the vexed issue of broadcasting quotas for European television stations Friday, aides said.

French leaders, adamant about protecting their audiovisual industry from a flood of cheap Hollywood productions, clashed with Mr. Santer after he said in an interview last week that quotas were temporary and unsatisfactory expedient.

But after they met Friday as part of day-long talks between the commission and the Paris government on France's six-month EU presidency, aides said they had found some agreement on ways to promote the European audiovisuai sector.

"The prime minister spelled out clearly French determinatison to achieve fast both a programme to support European audiovisual productions and a 'television which left office last week without borders' directive failed to agree on a new

PARIS (R) — French Prime that maintains existing Minister Edouard Balladur achievements, that is to say the volume of European films broadcast by generalist chandur said.

A 1989 directive, now up for review, ordered European television stations to broadcast at least 50 per cent European productions wherever possible. But that loophole effectively allowed some member states to ignore quotas.

Sources familiar with the talks said Mr. Santer told Mr. Balladur that his ideas 'séemed extremely positive" and the main question was how to put them into prac-

tice.
"(Santer) showed his desire to move forward quickly on this issue so that the French presidency can do useful work on these two subjects," one source said, adding that the commission president had promised to make proposals very soon.

The previous commission which left office last week

directive because free traders led by British Commissioner Sir Leon Brittan opposed any tightening of the enforcement

France, determined to uphold its language and culture in a presidential election year, has made the issue one of the priorities of its EU presidency. Butit faces opposition from Britain, Germany and Luxembourg, Mr.

Santer's home country.

The powerful U.S. television and film industry has lobbied energetically against the quota system after failing to have it outlawed in last year's GATT world trade treaty, from which the EU won a so-called "cultural exception" at French insist-

On other issues, Mr. Balladur and Mr. Santer discussed preparations for a 1996 conference of EU member states to review the workings of the Maastricht Treaty and discuss institutional reform, stalled efforts to improve nuclear power plant safety in Eastern

of trade talks with Morocco. France has made closer trade and aid relations with of the priorities of its presidency to balance aid to Central and East European states that are candidates to join the

issues Thursday on the eve of

followed by a dinner at the president's Elysees Palace, was billed as an informal discussion, not a summit, the palace said.

TOKYO (Agencies) -Japanese police said Friday that the confirmed death toll in the Kobe earthquake had jumped ot 5,243 as families bereaved by the disaster completed the formalities of registering their dead.

The toll could increase further as police are checking death certificates being filed for about 100 others, the spokesman said.

Six people were still missing as of Friday. A total of 26,807 people were injured in the earthquake, Japan's worst disaster since the 1923 Great Kanto earthquake killed 140,000 in Tokyo and

Yokohama. About 103,000 homes and buildings were destroyed in Kobe and surrounding areas in the Jan. 17 tremor, now known in Japan as the Great Hanshin earthquake. Han-

Kobe earthquake. The total exceeded any of its previous

relief campaigns.

Meanwhile, local officials announced that damage from the 7.2 magnitude quake is likely to exceed \$100 billion

Prefecture, which includes Kobe, estimated damage worth 9.5 trillion yen (\$95 billion), one trillion yen (\$10

billion) more than its previous calculation. It said the total would probably exceed 10 trillion yen (\$100 billion).

Thursday said it would spend almost 15 billion yen (\$150 million) to build 30,000 temporary housing units. Quake four prefab houses, the first completed since the temblor.

feet) space with two rooms, a bathroom, a kitchen and a toilet. The four homes are all on hard-hit Awaji Island. Many people will have to

spend two to three more

months in shelters such as

tents and converted school

gymnasiums before housing is available, Rumiko Kado-

"We are very concerned whether volunteers can continue their activities for that long," she said. "We can't estimate how many volunteers are working in the quake-stricken ares. It might

In normal times, Japanese luctant to accept gifts for fear of becoming obligated to the

pulses throughout the nation. I try.

WARSAW (R) — Polish Prime Minister Waldemar Pawlak flew home from Washington Friday to confront an all-out assault on his government by President

parliament.

gan the formal process of dissolving parliament, declar-ing he would only relent if it dumped the ruling coalition of the ex-communist Democratic Left Alliance (SLD) and Mr. Pawlak's smaller Polish Peasant Party (PSL).

Mr. Walesa Thursday be-

Lech Walesa.

The move by Mr. Walesa, who believes Mr. Pawlak's administration is delaying market reforms, evoked outspoken protests from the main parliamentary parties. which all declared that his legal pretext for winding up the legislature was flimsy. "There is common opposi-

tion to (Mr. Walesa's) plan illegally to dissolve parliament and there is a shared opinion that this aim poses an unprecedented threat to Polish democracy." Lower House Speaker Josef Oleksy told reporters Friday.

Mr. Oleksy, a top exCommunist, said if Mr.

Walesa went on with attempts to scrap the parliament it would haul him before the state tribunal, a court which may also be used to try General Wojciech Jarużelski for imposing martial law in 1981.

Mr. Walesa has challenged

the government's 1995 budget bill before the country'ss Constitutional Tribunal, delaying its final approval beyond a three-month deadline and giving himself a debatable pretext for dissolving

He says this is the only wav he can oust Mr. Pawlak, whom he accuses of delaying vital economic reforms and running a government in which some ministers stand accused of corruption. The president has tried, so

far in vain, to persuade the SLD to break with Mr. Pawlak's party and form a proreform cabinet. Mr. Walesa and Mr. Pawlak have also clashed over the vacant cabinet posts of defence and foreign affairs, with Mr. Walesa saying Mr.

Pawlak wants to rob him of a say in these appointments. Mr. Pawlak flew to the United States earlier this week having suggested two compromise candidates to Mr. Walesa, without publicly naming them or, apparently, fully consulting his SLD part-

But newspapers said Mr. Pawlak suggested the defence minister was rightist politi-cian Romuald Szeremietiew, causing uproar in the SLD which fiercely opposed the

SLD leader Aleksander Kwasniewski said Thursday

Premier faces all-out assault by Walesa he wanted a talk with Mr. Pawlak on his return, and hinted darkly that Mr. Walesa may set secure his arm of

splitting the coalition. We have to assess whether this coalition can survive and govern effective-ly and until we make this judgment we cannot undertake talks about a different

set-up," he said. Mr. Walesa portrays himself as a last bastion in power of Solidarity-era Poland. He relishes the irony that ex-Communists, who resorted to martial law in 1981 to crush his Solidarity Union, now pose as champions of demo-

"There is no threat from me. I shall never resort to shooting Poles or beating them up," he declared Thurs-Mr. Walesa's lawyer Lech

Falandysz said that although his pretext for dissolving parliament might be controversial, it was good enough 19 stand up in law.

At the same time, a trial before the state tribunal could boost Mr. Walesa's popularity. He intends to seek a second five-year term in a presidential election later this year.

"From the point of view of elections, the president would benefit by being put before a tribunal by the postcommunists," Mr. Falandysz told a radio interview.

#### c.= testified thatbe: Polls favour Berlusconi right-wing alliance ं इंट जबर्ज का death ले<del>ंट</del>-250 haunted be Taghimares (com 3 ROME (AFP) - Ex-Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi's - 3 warde Eige right-wing alliance would 3 07 5 W 21 form the next government if ಸ್ವಾರ್ಷ, ಅ**ಸ್ರಾಪ್ತಾ** ಕ್ಷೇ an Italian general electionand suffering Biggs were held now, an opinion the hotel was regain on viller center.

poll said Friday. The report, to be published in the weekly Panorama Saturday, came as press reports tipped economist Romano Prodi to lead a new centre-left alliance to challenge Mr. Berlusconi as the

country's political camps gear up for early elections. The opinion poll, carried out among 1,700 electors on

Jan. 30 and 31, said that the

coalition that won landmark elections last March could again sweep to power with an overall 49.4 per cent of the the National Alliance, which

at the weekend publicly broke with its fascist past, Mr. Berlusconi's Forza Italia, and the small Christian Democrat Centre Party. Forza Italia, according to

The coalition comprised

parties in Mr. Berlusconi's

the poll remains the country's largest political force, with 29

Centre would obtain 1.8 per Support for the federalist Northern League, which was also in Mr. Berlusconi's coalition before bringing down the

obtained 8.7 per cent last Mr. Berlusconi is also trying to woo the leader of per cent of support. The National Alliance meanwhile

the (ex-Christian Democratic) Italian Popular Party, Roco Buttiglione, whose pargarners 18.6 per cent, the poll ty would according to the

shortly make his decision The papers said they fully expect Mr. Prodi to stand. Balladur, Santer said closer on European TV quotas

said. The Christian Democrat Panorama poll obtain 9.1 per

Europe and an acceleration

Meanwhile, seeking to reinforce the Franco-German partnership in the European Union, President Francois Mitterrand and Chancellor Helmut Kohl discussed EU

a key EU meeting. The Mitterrand-Kohl talk,

But the message was clear on the day before a meeting in Paris of the European Commission. France was seeking harmony with its most important ally while it holds the six-month rotating presidency of the all-powerful EU council of

# Death toll from Kobe quake revised up to 5,243

shin denotes the Osaka-Kobe Meanwhiles Japan's Red Cross Society said Thursday it has received 30 billion yen (\$300 million) in donations, mostly from other Japanese. for victims of the devastating

in the worst-hit prefecture.
The government of Hyogo

The national government

victims Thursday moved into "It was wonderful. It was too good for me," said Kimi-ko Ishibitsu, 70 of her new 29 1-square metre (105-square

naga of the Hyogo government said Thursday.

be 50,000 or 100,000." are reluctant to help people who aren't family, friends or close neighbours, and people here are also sometimes re-

But the Kobe quake has brought out charitable im-

anan of the Board of Directors: Paramioud al Kayed

Control General:

AMMAD AMAD

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## **Bestone on road to full peace**

SUMMIT that brought together His Majesty Eussein, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, stinian Leader Yasser Arafat and Israeli Prime ister Yitzhak Rabin in Cairo over the weekend 2 milestone in the process of peace building in the

se messages that emerged from the unprecedented ting are highly significant for the peace negotiais and the vested interests of all four parties, that have high stakes in seeing the process leading to norehensive peace. We agree with Israeli Foreign ster Shimon Peres' characterisation of the sum-25 & "peace coalition," but only if it meant that ike Jordan, Egypt and the Palestine National erity, is determined to work for the attainment of 1.18t, lasting and comprehensive peace in the

But the gathering was not, and cannot be seen, as a :::: axclusive regional alliance opposed to other key egers in the region and the peace process, for whose cuscess Israel holds all the major cards. The signifi-22 of the summit stems not only from its convenm. Its importance also lies in the final communiqué hich the four leaders reasserted their determinaden to work for the attainment of comprehensive ne in the area, implement agreements already thed and stressed the need to solve the problems ing the Palestinian track, among other significant nouncements.

The three Arab leaders who attended the meeting . a always recognised the urgency of realising these als as well as making the Middle East an area free of epose of mass destruction, releasing the potential the region from the constraints of conflict and ricing to make the Muddle East a better place in ich to live. It is Israel which has been the obstacle achieving these goals. And it is Israel which has to he the extra effort to translate the final communiof the Cairo summit into a reality that would only the canove the shadow of war and suffering from the poles of the area.

The Summit should have given the Israelis a taste of .. constructive state of affairs in which the Middle ાજ car ...ve in. Even before Israel has fulfilled all its digations under the various treaties it has signed the countries involved in the Cairo su icaders were willing to receive Mr. Rabin and sit talk w in in an effort to spread peace all over ... region. LES scatters the long held Israeli myth Arab enmity was ideological. If any thing, the want should have the Israelis realise that their . Nicker over the last four decades have been the cause and Jews. But if the Israelis many towards reconciliation on the bases of achieving instice for all, Arabs would be more than willing to

Estack should start acting to prove that it seriously and genuinely wants peace; a peace that is predicated on justice and fairness, not on a balance of power in is layour. An urgent and immediate action should be anached on the Palestinian track. The Jewish state ेन्द्र क्षित much to be desired in terms of its commitment to the Cairo and Oslo deals. The Cairo summit and the positive messages it sent should produce a tomplete reassessment of Israel's policy on the deals it figured with the Palestinians. That should lead to implementing them fully, and without delay.

But that on its own will not bring the comprehenthat the region needs. The Syrian track must witness faster movement. And so must the Danese one lead to a just solution on the basis of U.N. resolutions and international legitimacy. When had happens, summits of the leaders of the area nould not be the event that the media would receive with such famfare simply because it is the exception. It THE be the normal state of affairs in a region that reglises that it must work together if it is to build a

#### ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

THE SUMMIT meeting by the heads of state of Jordan, Egypt. Palestine and Israel in Cairo is a significant development as the four countries are continuing their efforts to ensure peace and stability in the region, said Mahmoud Rimawi, a columnist in Al Ra'l Arabic daily. Israel's participation in the summit means that the Jewish state has become part of the Middle East community, but the Israeli government still has to take steps to enhance its status as a member of this community by meeting the requirements of peace in full, he said. What is expected from the Israeli government at this juncture, said the writer, is implementation of its deal with the Palestinians n the one hand and withdrawal from the Syrian and banese territories on the other. In Palestine, the Israelis an halt their Jewish settlement programmes on Arab lands and defuse the tension with the Palestinian National Authority paving the ground for the other steps greements, continued the writer. He said Jordan and Egypt, which have signed peace treaties with Israel, are in a accid position to urge the Israeli leaders to comply with the requirements of peace on all tracks so that the aspired comprehensive peace can be attained.

COMMENTING ON a decision by the Ministry of Supply and Amman Municipality to set up open sougs (markets) in ine suburbs of the capital during the month of Ramadan, a viriter in Sawt Al Shaab daily said that the move was bound to bring down the prices of vegetables and fruits for the consumers' benefit. Ahmad Dabbas said that Amman residents will be happy to turn to these markets where they gan buy their needs at lower prices since the vendors pay no cent or income tax and no intermediaries stand in the way between the farmers and consumers.

Jordanian Perspective

Dr. Musa Kellani

# Summit will help advance quest for peace

IT IS TOO early to determine the impact and results of the unprecedented summit that three Arab leaders held with the Israeli prime minister in Cairo on Thursday. But one thing is clear; any such meeting at this crucial stage in Middle East peacemaking has to be positive since it would help advance the quest for an equitable and comprehensive

solution to the fundamental problems in the region. But what we in Jordan are more concerned with was whether Israel sought a superficial image of close interaction with the Arabs to serve the ruling Labour Party or was sincerely interested in seeing the peace process move forward in a manner positive to the Arab side. From the Israeli track record so far in the peace process, it is clear that Israel will not be ready to make any substantial concession to the Arabs unless it gets its own way in return.

We can only hope that Israel had come to the Cairo summit mentally prepared to drop its hardline stance and help advance the quest for overall peace in the region by offering to meet the legitimate Arab demands for the return of territory, including Syria's Golan Heights and Israel's self-styled "security zone" in South Lebanon. But if the Cairo exercise was a political gimmick, then we are actually back square minus one.

The overriding factor in the Cairo summit was indeed the Arab demand for concrete Israeli gestures to advance the peace process based on equitable arrangements for coexistence in the Middle East. But such gestures, no matter how one looks at it, represent the very roots of the problem, particularly among the Israeli electorate. That was the basic contradiction in any Arab-Israeli effort to push the search for equitable and comprehensive peace. Indeed it is a double-edged sword since the very way to achieve the goal of peace in the region is through Israeli moves to meet the Arabs' legitimate demands. But meeting the Arab demands also means a further erosion of the standing of the Israeli Labour Party among the Israeli voters.

Given that the issue of Israeli settlements in the occupied territories, the status of Jerusalem and the nuclear issue were indeed at the top of the Cairo agenda, the fact remained that the Israeli side would have been hard put to make any substantial moves if its intention was to score

So the lesson to be learnt from the Cairo summit depends on the concrete moves that the four leaders agreed upon since those moves would actually indicate the seriousn of Israel to lift the logiam in the peace negotiations.

No doubt, the deadlock in the Israeli-Palestinian track was the focus of the discussions among His Majesty King. Hussein, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. However, one fails to see how Israel could hope to produce a major breakthrough to advance the Palestinian track without meeting the basic demand of the Palestinians for its withdrawal from the occupied West Bank and a stop to all Israeli meddling internal Palestinian affairs.

At the same time, one of the key objectives of Mr. Rabin was to secure some political capital out of the summit to prop up his sagging popularity among his constituency. As such, it was inevitable that he had come prepared to make some token gestures to the Palestinians in return for Mr. Arafat adopting an "iron fist" policy against Palestinian hardliners if only to appease the Israeli electorate.

It was clear that Egypt wanted the Cairo summit to produce a dramatic change in the apparent image of confrontation with Israel over the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, particularly that it is coming under intense American pressure to drop its demand for an Israeli endorsement of the treaty. All said and done, whether Egypt signed the NPT or not is not a key issue here. The ne was Israel's nuclear arsenal — the invisible weapon with which it is threatening the region. Perhaps, the way out of the deadlock was, as reported in the Israeli media

allowing a team of Egyptian nuclear experts to visit some of Israel's nuclear facilities, since such a move would come as a face-saving formula for Mr. Mubarak, particularly in time for his upcoming meeting with President Bill Clinton in Washington.

As far as Jordan is concerned, the Kingdom stands ready to contribute positively to any effort to advance the effort for a comprehensive, just and durable peace settlement between Israel and the Arabs. Jordan, which has regained its process and the Arabs. its water and territorial rights under the peace treaty it signed with Israel in October, has no political objectives from its offer to positively support any such effort except that overall Arab-Israeli peace bodes well for everyone and for the entire region.

It was suggested that Jordan wanted to "legitimise" its peace treaty with Israel with the Cairo summit. That is a very shortsighted view on the part of anyone who suggested it. Jordan does not need to legitimise anything since there is no question of the legitimacy of the peace treaty, a document which has been concluded between two sovereign governments and which does not overlap on anyone's rights. It only takes a cursory look a Jordan's track record in the peace process and the decades that preceded it to ascertain that the Kingdom was always committed to peace and always worked for it. Now, whether some Arab parties liked the treaty or not is a different question altogether, but that does not concern Jordan, whose experience in dealing with the Arabs is full of bitterness over being let down at the very point of breakthroughs over the years. We will not let anyone lecture

It has been made abundantly clear by His Majesty that the course adopted by Jordan to make peace with Israel based on the legitimate and sovereign rights of the Kingdom had nothing to do with any other party. At the same Jordan is also keen in seeing peace prevailing throughout the region, whether in the Palestinian, Syrian and Lebanese tracks or in the context of the wider Arab World and the Jewish state. That was the reason King Hussein accepted the invitation to go to Cairo and attend the summit. For us in Jordan anyone who wants to interpret it anymore than that has ulterior motives that do not bode well for the Kingdom.



# Jordanians celebrate return of occupied land; Israel must implement Oslo deal

By Elia Nasrallah

THE ARAB-Israeli summit in Cairo, the situation in the occupied Arab lands as well as pan-Arab and domestic affairs were given prominence in the local Arabic press in the past The United States has a

real interest in the success of the Arab-Israeli summit because it is the sponsor of the peace process, said Al Ra'i Arabic daily. Also, being the strategic ally of Israel, it is coming to its help at a time when the Arabs are exercising pressure on the Jewish state to implement U.N. resolutions and other peace re-quirements, said the paper. It is hoped that Washington would not suffice itself with issuing statements of support for Arab-Israeli meetings but would rather take steps to ensure the establishment of peace in deed rather than words, continued the daily. While the Arabs consider the Cairo meeting as a way to persuade the Israelis to comply with the requirements of peace, Israeli leaders consider the summit as an Israeli-Arab strategic alliance against the opponents of the peace treaties. said the paper, which expressed hope that Washington would take moves in the wake of the summit to ensure Israel's withdrawal from Arab land and a halt of Jewish settlement prog-

Al Dustour said that Jordan welcomed the Cairo summit as a means of exercising pressure on the Jewish state to implement the Oslo and Cairo agreements and to respond favourably to the requirements of peace on the other Arab-Israeli tracks. The paper said that Jordan's participation in the Cairo summit was a reaffirmation

of the Kingdom's pivotal role in the peace-making process, which has been stalled due to Israel's obstinance. Despite the fact that Jordan has regained its sovereignty over its land and water resources, the Kingdom is keen on seeing peace prevailing throughout the whole region and on seeing Arab lands restored to their legitimate owners, said the paper.

There is no doubt that Israel's refusal to sign the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) stems from its determination to ensure its perpetual hegemony on the Arab region, said Mohammad Kharroub, a columnist in Al Ra'i daily. Israel claims that it is targetted by the Arab states although it has reached peace with Egypt,

Arab demand over the past three decades in exchange for peace with the Jewish state. Egypt has regained Sinai following the Camp David accords: the Palestinias are getting back their territory with the start of the self-rule and Jordan is regaining sovereignty over its territory and water resources, continued the writer. What is left is to see the Israelis withdrawing from the Syrian and Lebanese territories so that peace can be comprehensive and last-

ing, he added. As Jordanians expressed joy over the return of their land that has been under Israeli occupation, one can only express hope that Jordanian farmers will be able to cultivate the fertile areas of Wadi Araba and the Jordan Valley which are still held by the Israelis.

#### THE WEEK IN PRINT

Jordan and the Palestinians and is about to conclude a peace treaty with Syria and Lebanon, noted the writer. He said the allegations that Israel is facing nuclear dangers from its neighbours are baseless and are being used as a tool to justify Israel's nuclear programmes with which it hopes to secure its domination of the Arab region's future. The writer said that the Arabs should not bury their heads in the sand and pretend that they are out of Israel's danger and they ought to realise that peace under constant threat is no peace

Mahmoud Rimawi, a columnist in Al Ra'i, described the Israeli withdrawals from Jordanian territory as a source of pride for all Jordanian and Arab people. The writer said that the return of Arab lands has been the main

said Taher Awdan in Al Dustour. The presence of Israeli farmers on Jordanian land is painful for the Jordanian people who wish to see all occupied areas recovered. However, Israel's withdrawal was a source of pride for the Jordanians not only because they regained sovereignty on this land but also because the move constituted one important step towards the demise of Israel's dream of a greater Israel at the expense of Arab territories, added the

Mohammad Kawash, a columnist in Al Dustour, said that the closure of the occupied Arab lands in Palestine following the suicide bombing near Tel Aviv would not stop the resistance activities against Israel. Furthermore, said the writer, the building of settlements under the pretext of creating a defence line for the Jewish state would not help the cause of peace. Israel should remember, said the writer. that it was largely due to suicide bombing attacks against the American and Israeli forces in Lebanon that these forces withdrew from Lebanese territory. It is rather strange to

hear the Israeli leaders'

plan to maintain a blockade on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip at a time when they claim that they are seeking peace, said Taher Adwan in Al Dustour. The Israeli president has said that negotiations with the Palestinians should stop at a time when his govern-ment has issued orders for beefing up the Jewish settlements. These and other measures are not conducive to peace with the Palestimans and the Arab World at large but are bound to further escalate the cycle of violence, added the writer. He said that the Palestinians are provoked by the Israeli practices and it is impossible to contain the Palestinian people's anger and frustration which, he said, would be translated into more violent acts

Commenting on the sharp rise in prices of various consumer commodities during the month of Ramadan, a columnist in Al Ra'i said while the limited-income groups try hard to cope with the rising prices, one can see that the wealthy tend to resort to extravagant spending on banquets during the holy month. It is strange to see that the month that has been dedicated for prayers and repentance transformed into a consumption fever causing the greedy merchants to practise manipulation and mass fortunes at the expense of the misery of the poor, said Nazih.

# Honest image saves Venezuela's Caldera from crisis

By Gary Regenstrief

CARACAS — The economy is slumping, inflation is soaring and poverty is on President Rafael Caldera enjoys a remarkable measure of popularity after one

year in office. His anniversary Thursday caps a year of relative poliricial calm following two years of tunnil marked by ricits, two military coup attempts and the impeachment of his predecessor Carlos Andres Perez.

Economic turmoil, however, has dogged Mr. Caldera since his manguration and analysts warn that public support will soon evaporate unless he can show he is pulling Venezuela out of deep recession and a grave banking crisis.

The elder statesman continues to win over 50 per cent approval ratings in opinion polls largely for his image of honesty in a nation whose two previous elected presidents face trial for cor-

"He is credible, honourable, respectable and honest. This is a scandalous novelty in the presidency of the republic," historian Arturo Uslar Pietri told local television this week. However, Mr. Caldera.

who celebrated his 79th birthday last week, is criticised for merely plugging temporary holes in the economy and financial system rather than building more solid foundations.

Mr. Caldera, who served his first term 25 years ago, returned to last February with a mandate to ease his predecessor's economic reforms and crush the corruption that ravaged the faith of Venezuelans in their public institutions.

But last year economic output fell by 3.3 per cent, inflation hit 71 per cent, unemployment neared 10 per cent and the official poverty rate climbed to 52 per cent from 48 per cent. "I am disappointed and a little fed up," said Caracas taxi driver Pedro Mijares, 50. "I hoped he could change things. We don't see new solutions. And every

week, prices go up. "A country can put up with everything except hun-

Mr. Caldera, a former labour lawyer, blames the

"We have faced very difficult situations that are a result of grave errors committed in recent years," he said recently.

The septuagenarian imposed price and currency controls to brake a plunging bolivar and soaring infla-tion, in what critics described as a return to a discredited era of populism and economic protection-

And he suspended key

constitutional freedoms, including the guarantee against search and arrest ithout a warrant, all in a bid to prevent price gouging and round up suspected cri-

Seeking to protect the public's deposits, his govemment spent about \$6 billion, or half the 1994 budget; to bail out and eventually take over 16

sinking banks.

Leading economist Pedro Palma, a vice president with Booz Allen and Hamilton Inc, said the banking crisis has limited the government's ability to manoeuvre on other economic fronts, but he criticised the controls as a regressive step.

"He is giving a palliative to a patient who needs surgery," Palma said in an interview. "The controls were the most comfortable way to avoid social problems. The more time that passes the worse the con-

sequences." The government, he said. should take some tough measures now, such as speeding up privatisations and eliminating subsidies that are cating up funds that could be used in other sectors.

Mr. Caldera is best at issuing broad statements of intent, such as vague plans to reduce inflation and promote growth, but gets lower grades for saying how he will accomplish it or on taking political decisions that could spark public dis-

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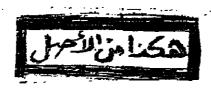
"The crisis requires audacity and wisdom audacity to jump into the void, wisdom to calculate it," the daily El Nacional newspaper said in an editorial comment. "There is too much caution and not enough andacity.'

Mr. Caldera, who holds a minority in Congress, has been able to govern thanks in large part to an opposi-tion that has not been too Obstructionist.

Jesus Sanoja Hernandez a political scientist and newspaper columnist, suggested that the gloves will come off ahead of December elections for mayors and governors when the opposition will seek to knock points off Mr.Caldera's popularity.

"They will look for the government's week flank before December," he said. The opposition has already begun to stir.

"The economic and social problems have worsened," Pedro Tabata Guzman, deputy parliamentary head for the opposition Democratic Action Party, told Renters. Caldera has counted on the support of all parties. They have given him a full year to draft a consistent and viable political plan that he has not achieved."



ridan is concerned, the kingle, positively to any effont to the street, just and durable by it and the Arabs. Jordan was territorial rights under the street, in October, has no pole to positively support any lability and pole to positively support any lability peace bodes well as region.

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By Gary Regenstrief Reuter

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# r peace

By Rogier Slop THE HAGUE — In normal times, the Netherlands is a peaceful, tranquil and slightly boring country. But this week it was different. A pitched battle was fought in the Dutch Delta. It was part of an endless war against an enemy the

> turies: water. It is not easy to explain the situation to the peoples in the Middle East, who are used to handle every single drop of water as a precious treasure. We, on the other hand, are still vexed with the problem of how to get rid of millions and millions of gallons of water every day. Rain, rivers and the tides of the North Sea have shaped our country as much as our lives.

Dutch have known for cen-

By now, more than 60 per cent of our country lies well below sea-level. Without dikes and an elaborate drainage system, refined during long, long years, famous cities like Amsterdam and Rotterdam would be in Atlantis.

Most of our land the Dutch cheated out of nature. And nature paid us back this week. While we were proud of having repaired our front door in the fight against the sea, the water sneaked in through the back door. The long and scenic Rhine River, and the less impressive, but still powerful Meuse, reclaimed their ancient rights in the Delta. They took what was theirs from time immemorial: a dashing rush from the Swiss Alps and the French Vosges to

the North Sea. Some quarter of a million Dutch and one million cattle had to hurry away from the swollen rivers. It was the largest evacuation operation in the history of the Netherlands. During the evacuation, a strange mood preserved. The Dutch are known as very private people, with a reputation of stubborn disobedience to authorities, always whining about taxes and demanding financial compensations when something goes The water the Dutch love to hate

left their houses and farms. It must have something to do with a deep-rooted relationship with water. In the Netherlands, toddlers learn to swim when they are four or five years old. Parents are encouraged to take their babies to the swimming pool. Not just for fun, but also out of necessity. Water is always around the corner and can be dangerous.

It has always been this way. When the Romans

ruled most of the thenknown world, the Germanic tribes in the Delta lived on earthen hills. In the Middle Ages, when Holland and parts of Belgium were justly referred to as the Low Countries, the first primitive dikes were made of clay, wood and stones. Through the centuries the system was developed further, and it created a landscape that is called 'polder'. It is the only Dutch word (besides 'apartheid', but we prefer to forget that one) to penetrate without translation in English, French and German. Polders are flat and fruitful lands behind dikes, guarded by a system of canals and sluices. The famous Dutch windmills were not made for the benefits of tourism in the 20th century. They were the first pumping machines to keep the water level in the polders under control. The ambiguous attitude

from the Dutch to the water stems from the fact that water is not always the enemy. Every spring we say goodbye to the cold and mostly rainy winter by trekking along the meandering rivers. The same rivers that caused so much havoc this week, are at such moments the symbols of spring. The ancient villages along the dikes are cleaned, newborn lambs are jumping in the fields and the fruit trees are blossoming. In the summer, people crowd the sandy beaches and go sailing on the vast lakes in the

Water made us rich as well. In the seventeenth century, the so-called Golden



A local resident in a kayak receives a bag with in many European towns. Neighbourhood help such shopping goods from a volunteer helper in the as a shopping service has become normal in these flooded streets of Koblenz-Neuendorf in Germany as days, where residents of the flooded regions are

Age of the Dutch Republic, merchants from Amsterdam commanded the high seas as far as Asia and Latin America. The impressive canal-houses in the centre of Amsterdam,

trade and colonial loot. And the Delta is still a moneymaker. Located on the mouth of the Rhine River, gateway to industrial giant Germany, Rotterdam has maintained its position as largest seaport of the world for decades. And in the green polders, cattle is raised. Dutch cows are as a breeding stock in high demand all over the

Egypt before the meeting was

capital of the Netherlands,

are built on their power,

So most of the time there is a nice, harmonious cooperation between the Dutch and the water. We love it, but we will never trust it.

On Feb. 1, 1953, the sea attacked during a heavy rainstorm the Zeeland islands in the south-west of the country. The dikes

Living below sea-level has its advantages. But also its dangers, as the floodings in the Netherlands showed last week. There is a long, obsessive relationship between the stubborn Dutch and the moody waters that surround them.

Because, although there may be truces, there will never be a lasting peace between the treacherous water and the tricky Dutch.

demn the Cairo summit.

Islamic Jihad said in the

Arabic daily Al Hayat that

the meeting was meant to

salvage the sagging popularity of Mr. Rabin's govern-

ment, "which is stumbling

under the strikes of the cru-

The Democratic Front for

the Liberation of Palestine,

another Syria-based group,

said the unprecedented meet-

ing was "incapable of refloat-

ing the Oslo (autonomy)

accord or saving the separate

Abu Mohammad Mustafa,

representative of Hamas,

said the summit was aimed at

pressing Mr. Arafat to launch

a final battle against Palesti-

"The summit was aimed at

pressuring Arafat to speed up

his schemes for waging a final

battle against the opposition

groups and the mujahideen

(holy fighters) of Hamas and

the Islamic Jihad ...," Mr. Mustafa told Reuters in an

"The aim of this is to res-

cue Rabin and his Labour

interview.

Party," he said.

nian opposition groups.

deal" with Israel.

saders."

were long neglected by the impoverished Dutch, who tried to recover from five years of Nazi occupation. Even swimming abilities

were to no avail in the fierce waves, and more than 1.850 people drowned. Never again, the Dutch vowed, and they started the ambitious De-Itaplan. During more than twenty years they built a system of dams, dikes and floodgates. The last part of the project was finished in 1986, and it turned out that the whole project had cost about 10.4 billion Dutch

"normal" transportation (AFP photo)

from the Gulf.

This image has been severely tarnished by the recent floodings. After the completion of the Delta-

plan the Dutch became

over-confident and post-

poned reconstruction of the

inland dikes along the great

rivers again and again. The

high costs and the pressure

of powerful environmental-

ist groups, who feared that

the typical river landscape

would vanish, blocked

plans to reinforce the

dikes. This week, the

Dutch paid the price.

But even this huge investment paid off. The Dutch were regarded worldwide as the experts in waterworks and orders for dike and harbour construction poured in, for example

guilders (more than 6 bil-

lion USS).

ly. When high waters are reported in southern Germany, it will take several days before the floods reach Holland. So the Dutch could pre-

rivers move relatively slow-

pare for the water, and that is one of the reasons why there was no loss of life. But the damage is already, according to conservative estimates and given that the water has not fully receded, several hundreds of millions of dollars.

The whole world has seen the television images of the grim battle on the dikes. Especially the so-called 'Bat-htub' (polders between the Meuse and the Waal branch of the Rhine, six metres below the river level) were threatened. Soldiers and volunteers are struggling with sandbags, and seem to be winning, although the fight is far from over.

Still, the cloud has a silver lining. The eternally bickering Dutch show a rare sense of national unitty these days. H.M. Queen Beatrix (who, by the way, is a close friend of H.M. King Hussein and H.M. Queen Noor) has visited the affected areas and was welcomed warmly by everyone, even by the staunchest republicans. Refugees live with families in non-affected areas, or in reception centres. Count- ; less volunteers are working on the dikes or helping the refugees. A benefit concert by Dutch artists, broadcast by all the normally sharp competing stations, has already raised about 60 million U.S.S. Farmers on dry ground make room in their stables for the cattle of their colleagues. There are even reception centers

from small pets.

A chain of bungalow parks offers room to refugees. The greatest attraction of these parks? A large, 'tropical' swimming pool. In Holland you simply can not avoid water, even if you want to.

There was, however, one Rogier Slop is Middle East editor for the Haagsche big difference with 1953. Netherlands.

# Israel satisfied, Palestinians sceptical

East Jerusalem and the occupied West Bank.

Israel and the PLO will resume talks Monday in Cairo and then Mr. Rabin and Mr. Arafat will come together on Thursday. Another meeting is set for Feb. 12 in Washington, where diplomats from the four parties will discuss everything from improving education to creating a nuclear-free zone in the Middle East.

Mr. Musa said there had been lengthy talks about set-tlement. "We insisted that this issue should be dealt with in accordance with the letter and spirit not only of the declaration of principles (for self-rule) but of international

law," he said.
"The peace process was frozen with the Palestinians. Now it is no more frozen because of all the meetings that are going to be held soon," Mr. Musa said. The four leaders recalled the missing link in the peace

puzzle: Syria. "They expressed the hope that the near future will witness the achievement of peace accords between Israel

and Syria and Lebanon," the final communique said. Mr. Musa said he was "sor-" that Israeli Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin

claimed the summit was aimed against Syria. "We support Syria on full withdrawal from the Golan Heights," he said referring to the sticking point in negotiations between Syria and

Israel. "We're sure that President Assad in Syria is very ready to enter peace agreements once the conditions ... are

"There is no other message than this one: we support the peace process in all its aspects, Syria, Lebanese,

Palestinian... "Syria does not need convincing. They agree on peace but of course they stick to the principle we all agree on: land for peace, all for all."

Mr. Peres has said differences with Egypt over Israel's refusal to sign the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty had been defused (see page 12). Mr. Musa later denied it. It

was not a summit topic. The PLO official said there was no agreement on the

release of some 6,000 Palestinian prisoners and Israeli troop redeployment before Palestinian elections. Israel has reservations about both issues in light of anti-peace deal guerrilla attacks.

Since the September 1993 interim PLO-Israel peace. agreement, Israelis have killed 205 Palestinians and Palestinians have killed 112

U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher hailed the summit in Cairo as a "historic meeting" and welcomed its commitment to oress ahead towards a full Middle East peace. "I welcome the results of

the summit that has been held in Cairo. It was an historic meeting," Mr. Christ-opher, who has made repeated trips to the Middle East in search of a settlement, said in a statement issued hours after the summit ended.

He said the meeting showed that the four leaders "are standing together in the pursuit of peace and they are also standing firmly together against those who would try to stop the march towards

A senior U.S. official briefing reporters on condition he was not identified said the follow-up talks in Washing-ton would focus on the three cooperation areas - political, economic and security listed in the summit com-

"What we'd like to do is work with them to find ways to begin to follow through on the declaration in terms of the commitment to developing cooperation and finding practical ways to express it. he said.

The official said the economic area would deal with preparations for next October's Middle East economic summit in Amman, the political area with promoting the peace process and the security area with "what more can be done there."

He said the Palestinians were making efforts to improve security in areas they control "but we feel that they can do more" to prevent guerrilla attacks on Israel by groups opposed to peace. He declined to say what new measures the Washington meetings might discuss.

The official insisted that the summit had been an

mar Rabinovich. ted that U.S. officials had As expected, Mr. Arafat's discussed it at length with opponents were quick to con-

"We had to reinject momentum into this process, we had to recapture the initiative on the process, we had to make it clear that those who are working so hard to destroy this process through violence and other means couldn't succeed," he

> Although Syria, which has yet to sign a peace deal with Israel, will not take part in the Washington meetings, the official confirmed Damascus reports that Syrian Ambassador Walid Al Mouallem would return to

> Washington shortly. Mr. Mouallem went back to Damascus following talks with his Israeli counterpart in Washington in December in which the chiefs of staff of the Syrian and Israeli armed forces took part. Syria said the talks produced no results.

The official said U.S. officials would have intensive discussions with Mr. Monallem on his return, but declined to say if the Syrian envoy would be meeting his Israeli opposite number, Ita-

#### Russians advance in Grozny

(Continued from page 1)

She said they would also insist Russia after its constitution to give its parliament more control over the executive branch.

Thousands of Chechens are believed to have been:

invasion Dec. 11.

# Croats seek Belgrade's help

Serbs and Muslims which took effect at the start of the year. It is divided between the Muslim-led Bosnian government army's 5th Corps and Serb-backed Muslim rebels.

Sarajevo radio said two civilians were killed and six schoolchildren hurt in attacks on the Buzim area of the enclave on Thursday from neighbouring Croatian territory held by RSK Serbs.

Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev and Bosnian Prime Minister Haris Silakilled since Russia began its

Russia has sought council membership since May 1992, but has been repeatedly denied acceptance because of complaints of human rights violations in Russia and its

(Continued from page 1)

ceasefire between Bosnian

Muslim-controlled

jdzic agreed in Moscow their governments would exchange representatives with a view to eventual diplomatic recogni-Although the Russians

have been Serb allies during the conflict, Mr. Kozyrev expressed full support for a Bosnian territorial integrity and a big power peace plan which the Bosnian Serbs re-The plan would give 51 per

cent of the country to a federation of Bosnian Muslims and Croats and the rest to Bosnian Serbs who now control 70 per cent.



A Palestinian woman and her child taking cover from the sun under an umbrella as they sit in the women's area at the Al Agsa and Omar mosques in Jerusalem's Old City (AFP

### Israeli siege keeps faithful away

(Continued from page 1)

state (Israel) last longer?" "Muslims, I'm sure that Israel will finally be destroyed and the (Jewish) settlements will be your spoils,

said Sheikh Sabri. Near Bethlehem, border police turned back Palestinians trying to attend prayers in Jerusalem. "I want to pray," 65-year-

old Sakhri Tatakta told one of the policemen. "It's forbidden," the policeman replied in Arabic. "No," Mr. Tatakta pleaded. "I have to go to the

prayers because it is Ramadan." But the policeman pushed him aside.

"There is no other government in the world that would prevent people from praying," Mt. Tatakta grumbled, adding he would try to sneak in through the hills. Later, policemen caught four Palestinians trying to sneak through and kicked

one several times all over his

body. In Hebron, about 700 mostly elderly people were allowed into the Ibrahimi Mosque by Israeli troops, while several thousand

prayed outside. One man was arrested protesting the Israelis' policy of keeping younger men out of the mos-

Later Friday, about 200 Palestinains held a protest march near the West Bank village of Tormus Awwa and uprooted a fence around what they said were 300 dunums of land recently confiscated by Israel. Israeli soldiers watched from a nearby hilltop but did not intervene.

Jalal Aref, clutching Israeli-issued papers he said proved his ownership of part of the land, said he would fight the confiscation in courts. "Without my land I am nothing," said Mr. Aref. 60.

Jamal Musa, the village mukhtar, said that by the time Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) discuss the permanent status of the West Bank, "there will be no more land left."

Final status talks are to begin by May 1996, two years after autonomy was established in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank enclave of

#### Unlike then, we were not taken by surprise. It may sound strange but swollen

Sheikh's video produced in cou

plot," the prosecution says. Ms. Stewart suggested that the disappearance of the watermelon proved that agents took what they wanted from the apartment, regardless of the specifications of the search warrant. The war-

anything relating to a jihad. The watermelon was in a first set of photographs the FBI took at the apartment but was missing in the second. So were some oranges, she said, although she has yet to tell the jury

rant allowed agents to seize

about that. "That I'm saving," she said with a smile.

(Continued from page 12) The trial, which began Jar

> 9, recessed until Monday Opening statements bega Jan. 30. FBI Agent David. Frasc was questioned Thursday the cleric's lawyer and said t did not know that Islam teachings forbid making (

posits and observant Muslin do not put money in trad tional bank accounts. On Wednesday, an age said the FBI believes Sheil Abdul Rahman is th "ideological" leader 🕡 "jihad" groups in Californi Texas, Michigan, New Yo

Mr. Felber said the co

to succeed him. He added

separate General Assemi

committee which scruting

Israeli abuses should ca

under strong fire from

U.N.'s human rights wat

dog. Mr. Felber's investi

tion was under a proced

Israel traditionally cor

tinue its work.

paying interest on bank de

#### and New Jersey. U.N. rights rapporteur resign

(Continued from page 12)

political route is possible," the West Bank to make way for Palestinian elections. said of the U.N. commissic must be speeded up. Foreign governments must fulfill their mission would have to deci promises of aid to the Gaza if it wanted to appoi another special investiga

He warned otherwise there

would be an "explosion" in

frustration and batred, fomented by both Muslim and Jewish extremists who are opposed to compromise. "I would like to underline that I was profoundly shocked by the oppressive atmos-

Strip, he said.

phere that reigned in most of the occupied territories we visited," he said. He said in general terms that it was best to criticise human rights violations, but that the Mideast peace pro-

basic freedoms. "I am disappointed that

cess offered an alternative way of promoting respect for

there doesn't seem to be any

reserved for the worst, vic tors, including Iraq, Ir Burma and Sudan. · The International Jus Committee, a respected b Felber of betraying vicum human rights abuse. Am ty International said scru

of Israel must continue

#### combat widespread tor effort to understand that the and abuse. Indyk criticises Syria

side.'

(Continued from page 12) peacekeeping force on the Golan Heights.

Questioned by Sen. Hank Brown (Republican-Colorado), who presided over the hearing, Mr. Indyk said the U.S. commitment to consider providing troops for a force to police a peace agreement between Israel and Syria dated to the Bush administration and was reaffirmed by Mr. Clinton when he took office.

Mr. Indyk said it was made clear to both sides that any

consideration of provi troops would be "in cons tion with Congress." He said Israel and "have only just begun di sion of security arra ments... and this issue

On the touchy questi Jerusalem, Mr. Indyk warned Congress that acted to recognise the the capital of Israel it " explode the peace p

not been broached by

(and) put us out of bu as a facilitator."

# Iran seeks to curb outflow of hard currency

TEHRAN (Agencies) — Iran is fighting to curb the flow abroad of hundreds of millions of dollars in hard currency each year that is deepening the country's economic crisis.

According to central bank governor Mobsen Nurbakhsh only \$800 million of the country's estimated \$3.2 billion in hard currency earnings from non-oil exports last year returned to Iran, even though many of the export companies are associated with the government.

. The country, meanwhile, is on the brink of bankruptcy and over-burdened by a short and medium-term foreign debt of more than \$30 billion. The authorities have resorted to a carrot-and-stick policy to force exporters to

return their capital to the country.

Mr. Nurbakhsh said the government now required that exporters return at least 50 per cent of their hard currency earnings within four months of any transaction, or face legal action.

He also promised that interest would be added to hard currency deposits at Iranian tional rates. Parliament asked the gov-

erament Monday to step up the fight against the smuggling of hard currency and merchandise that has been on the rise in the past two years. The request was made despite the mounting efforts by

the government to cut back on imports To save hard currency and

pay back its hefty foreign debt, Iran sharply curbed imports last year to around \$10 billion from \$25 billion in

> The shock treatment however led to the creation of a parallel semi-legal system of transactions, which function independently of the

country's banking system.

The volume of trade within this system is estimated at between \$3 to \$5 billion, according to parliamentary documents quoted by the official news agency IRNA.

"This system serves as a safety valve to prevent the industrial sector and the bazzar from suffocating and to allow the minimum imports of vital goods," said a European economic expert in Tehran. "But at the same

time it harms the government's efforts to reimburse its debt and emerge from the financial crisis."

The trafficking of hard currency and merchandise mainly from Arab Gulf states -however has taken on such a huge proportion that many government organisations have also been implicated.

"It would be very difficult to reorganise the system as long as the parallel system keeps growing," the expert But the war declared on

hard currency trafficking already appears to have had SOME SUccess. The authorities seem to have already managed to

stem the collapse of the riyal,

Mr. Shoushtari heads a new committee trying to curb backbreaking inflation that which lost 40 per cent of its has led to a public outcry. value against major foreign

The Iranian currency has

risen slightly against the dol-

far and gold on the black

market since Monday, while

the rate of the greenback

Meanwhile, Iran has sent-

enced a factory owner and

two managers of other

businesses to public floggings

and fines for refusing to sell

goods at rates set by the

made by Justice Minister

Ismail Shoushtari and broad-

cast by Tehran Radio. It

underscored government re-

The announcement was

government.

officially remains frozen.

The radio, monitored in Cyprus, quoted him as saying that the director-general of Golnab, a company in central Arak province that produces shortening, was sentenced to 30 floggings and ordered to pay more than 403 million riyals (\$230,000) for illegal distribution and selling at in-

flated rates. The minister said that the owner of a tire factory was fined 33 million riyals (\$19,000) for refusing to sell at the official rates, and that the manager of a cooperative store was fined 11 million riyals (\$6,000) for "profiteer-

ing". He said all three were tried solve to deal firmly with and convicted over the past few days. None of the alleged violators was identified by name.

# Lebanon plans new oil refinery policy

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon's oil minister said he will propose setting up a corporation ery has been scrapped. with state, foreign and private Lebanese capital to relaunch-the country's stateowned refinery industry.

Outlining his plans for a new policy for the retining sector, Industry and Oil Minister Asa'ad Rizk said the proposed corporation would have an initial capital of \$200 million and would operate under a BOT (build, operate, transfer) contract.

It would spend up to \$1 pillion to repair a disused 25,000 barrels per day (b/d) refinery at the northern port of Tripoli and expand its capacity to 50,000 b/d, and to build a 100,000 b/d state of the art refinery at Zahrani

The Zahrani plant would be expandable at a low cost to 130,000-150,000 - b/d · to allow Lebanon to export high quality refined products into the 21st century, Mr. Rizk said in a recent interview.

He told Reuters he would announce the proposal in parliament in February or March. It differs from a plan he presented last year for a joint venture focussing on the Tripoli plant alone.

Mr. Rizk said the ministry rethought Lebanon's retining strategy on the basis of the a six-month study last year by the French company Beicip Franlab. It was asked if Lebanon should keep importing refined products or refine imported crude, and whether reexporting refined products was feasible.

Lebanon has no oil reserves and imports its requirements of \$0,000 b/d of refined products. The Tripoli refinery damaged during the 1975-90 civil war is closed and the 17,000-b/d Zahrani refin-"The first answer (of the

Beicip Franlah study) is that it's more feasible to rehabilitate and extend the Tripoli refinery and to build a new refinery at Zahrani than to import refined product, Mr. Rizk said.

The state would have about 25 per cent of the new corporation's initial capital, 50 per cent would go to foreign investors and 25 per cent would be raised on the Beirut stock market.

The study showed that the Tripoli plant could start making money in two or three years, Mr. Rzik said.

It showed that with a \$150 million investment the refinery could start producing 25,000 b/d in about 18 months from its existing distiliation unit and the addition of another unit could raise this to 50,000 b/d in three years.

Construction of a 100,000 b/d refinery at Zahrani would take five or six years and cost \$700 million, Mr. Rizk said.

"If we build this refinery in the south we will only have to invest a little more money to reach 130,000 or 150,000 b/d by 2005 or 2010, meaning that the output of the two refineries would leave an export surplus.

Asked if he had a company in mind to take up the 50 per cent foreign shareholding in the proposed corporation Mr. Rizk said: "Many. American, British, German, Italian."

Mr. Rizk said two companies, British and Irish, are interested in carrying out new seismic surveys in Lebanon.

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#### from down to up. However, short term momentum is peaking, suggesting that the currency is positioned for a near term decline. If so, this would serve to relive the building medium term pressures and carry these oscillators to better

provided by Naser Nabulsi, private client group at Merrill Lynch — Dubai. Fundamental View: The Mexican peso was driven to a record low on Monday — closing in New York at N.P./U.S.\$ 6.35 vs 5.74 on Friday-as news over the weekend on killing the control of the that support in Congress for President Clinton's \$40 billion loan guarantee package was decreasing. On Tuesday, the peso was again under pressure trading as low as N.P./U.S.\$ 6.47, when President Clinton announced a new plan for Mexico that would not require Congressional approval. This

The following report, covering the period from Thursday, Jan. 26, 1995 until Wednesday, Feb. 1, 1995, is

sparked a rally for the peso -and the dollar- which brought the peso's value back up to N.P./U.S.\$ 5.75. Clinton's new plan will utilise \$20 billion in swap facilities and securities guarantees from the Exchange Stabilisation Fund and the Federal Reserve. According to the Treasury, these funds will be used to facilitate the restructuring of Mexico's short-term debt into longer maturities in order to ease the liquidity problem and

stabilise the peso. Mexico needed these loan guarantees to meet its obligations or roll over \$26 billion in short-term debt that matures this year. Though the Exchange Stabilisation Fund includes US. dollars, Deutschemarks, Japanese yen and Special Drawing Rights (SDRs), we do not expect any significant foreign exchange sales because the Treasury can get dollars by borrowing from the Fed and using the foreign exchange as collateral.

We maintain our forecast for the dollar to strengthen against the mark and the yen in the near-term as the Fed raises interest rates and short-term interes rate differentials clearly favour the dollar. Our three- and six-months forecast for the yen JPY/USD 105 and for the mark is DM/USD 1.60-to-1.65.

Technical View: The combination of improving sentiment, oversold short-term momentum, and the proximity of support resulted in a firm dollar last week. Particular streagth against the European currencies and the Australian dollar allowed the U.S. dollar index to rally 0.2 per cent for its first gain in three weeks. Short term momentum is bottoming, suggesting that the index is positioned for further strength. Thus, even though medium term oscillators are peaking, the prospects for a raily are likely to at least temporarily arrest this topping process.

As a result, we will have to monitor the quality of any nearby rally since the next short term peak may also be a more important medium term top. Support is at 86.90, then the October low at 84.91. Important resistance remains in he 89.00-91.00 area.

#### Japanese yen

undamental View: The Japanese yen is currently trading ear JPY/USD 99.4 but we think there is a good case for yen veakness over the next few months. Our three- and ix-month outlook is for the yen to be trading near JPY/USD 05. Reasons for yen depreciation include a widening hort-term interest rate spread between the U.S. and Japan nd a slowdown in portfolio capital flows out of the U.S. In the U.S., growth continues to be strong-fourth-quarter eal GDP came in at a 4.5 per cent rate- and we expect the ed to tighten interest rates by 100 basis points over the next ouple of months. Conversley, the Kobe earthquake in span will dampen growth in the near-term and force the

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Bank of Japan to keep rates low until the third of fourth quarter.

Dollar to strengthen against mark, yen in the near-term — Merrill Lynch

The spread between U.S. and Japanese short-rates, currently around 380 basis points, could widen to 500 basis points over the next few months. That would give the dollar considerable support. Another source of support for the dollar is the slowdown in net portfolio capital outflows from the U.S. In 1990-92, these outflows averaged less than \$12.5 billion per quarter or \$50 billion at an annual rate. In 1993. outflows surged and were as high as \$41 billion in the third-quarter, or nearly \$165 billion at an annual rate. However, by the second-half of 1994, outflows began to slow materially and are now close to their 1992-92 pace. Indeed, it is possible that these outflows will actually reverse in the first-quarter if Americans investors decide to repatriate some of their international investments.

Despite our near-term optimism for the dollar against the yen, we continue to look for yen appreciation over the longer-term due to current account dynamics. Our 12-month forecast is JPY/USD 95.

Technical View: The Japanese yen gained 0.1 per cent versus the U.S. dollar during the week ended Jan. 27. The sentiment background for the currency is near oversold. Benchmark support remains at 100.80-101.80 Y/U.S.\$ and. with short term momentum peaking, that support may be

tested again over the near term. However, medium term oscillators are nearing oversold readings, suggesting that any nearby weakness may be the prelude to a more sustainable rally (supported by both short, and medium term oiscillators) later on.

If so, this would suggest a more severe challenge of the 96-97 area (and possibly beyond) once any nearby weakness runs its course.

#### Deutschemark

Fundamental View: The dollar rallied against the mark after President Clinton announced his new aid package to Mexico and is currently trading near DM/USD 1.52. For some time now, the Deutschemark has been benefiting from a "flight to hity" that began with the Mexican crisis and canded over into other countries where current account or budget imbalances, political problems, or earthquakes were a cause for investor anxiety.

However, as turnoil over the Mexican crisis subsides and the Fed raises interest rates, we think the dollar will continue to recover since U.S. short-rates will offer considerable premium to German short-rates. Currently, the spread between U.S. and German short-term rates around 110 basis points and could expand by another 50-to-100 basis points

We expect the Fed to raise interest rates by 100 basis points over the next two months while Germany is unlikely to raise the discount or the Lombard rate until the second half of this year. Indeed, there is a chance that the Bundesbank may even keep the repo rate fixed until after the May French elections, though it is more likely they will return to a variable repo at one of their next 4 meetings. We maintain our forecast for the mark to be trading at DM/USD 1.60 in three-months, 1.65 in six-months and 1.60 in 12-month's time.

Technical View: The Deutschemark fell 0.2 per cent against the U.S. dollar last week. Sentiment continues to deteriorate and is solidly in neutral territory. The currency has now retraced most of its October-December decline and, as a result, medium term oscillators are attempting to reverse

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ITALIAN GIRL

In the meantime, nearby resistance exists at 1.492-1.509

DM/U.S.\$. At this point, 1.58 is benchemark support, although there is intervening support at 1.542-1.562. Against the yen, the D-mark fell 0.3 per cent last week. Despite the fact that medium term oscillators did not reach oversold territory, they seem to have turned up again. However, short term oscillators are overbought. This, coupled with resistance at 66.60, may allow for a correction over the near term. In the meantime, there is important trendline support near 63.50-64.00.

#### Pound sterling

Fundamental View: The British pound dropped a few cents to trade around USD/GBP 1.57 after rising to a two-month high against the dollar at USD/GBP 1.60. The pound also weakened against the mark, dropping to DM/GBP 2.40. There was heightened expectations of another monetary tightening at the next meeting between the Bankj of England Governor Eddie George and the Chancellor of the Exchequer Kenneth Clarke on Feb. 2 following inflation and imemployment date releases. December RPI was stronger than expected, while the fall in unemployment was much sharper than anticipated by the market. However, chancellor Clarke was quick to dampen expectations of an imminent rate

We continue to think that another rate increase is not likely before March and expect rates to increase by 100 basis points in two 50 basis point increments over the next few

Apart from the monetary meeting on Feb. 2, the other major focus for the markets will be the release of the BAnk of England's quarterly inflation report. The spread of the U.K. over German nominal rates varies from 160 basis points at the short end to 134 basis points at the long end. With U.K. rates expected to rise while German rates on hold (atleast for now), the widening interest differential is a positive for the pound and should push the pound toward our 12-month forecast of DM/GBP 2.50. However, as we expect the dollar to rebound against the mark over the next-few months, the pound is likely to give back some of its gains against the dollar.

We expect the pound to be trading near USD/GBP 1.56 in

Technical View: The British pound fell less than 0.1 vers the U.S. dollar during the week ended Jan. 27. Sentiment is deteriorating and moving toward overbought readings. While short term momentum has an upward bias, these oscillators are overbought and there is evidence of a near

If so, this would suggest that the rally of recent weeks has only a little more life left in it. At the same time, medium term indicators are improving; thus, any nearby weakness will probably postpone the creation of an important bottom. A rally decisively through 1.602 U.S.\$/L could well signal an eventual challenge of the 1994 high at \$1.638. Nearby support is \$1.584, with second support at \$1.561.

Against the DM, sterling gained 0.2 per cent last week. Despite recent deterioration, momentum is still only neutral, suggesting an upcoming test of the August low at 2.378. Resistance exists at 2.435, then above 2.46.

#### HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY FEBRUARY 4, 1995 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) You can have a quietly happy time with the one you love during the day, but its up to you to take the initial step that brings about better understanding.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) An extremely good friend can today put into motion an operation that will be most helpful to your best interests or else introduce you to some influential person. GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Put into operation whatever activity

will help you to get into the good graces of some influential person who will be very helpful for your future. MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) An out of town missive or

instruction to one far away through the mail will be very pleasing today so that you can be very successful. LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Strive for greater cooperation by associates through subtle kindness and small, thoughtful gifts. Then institute some system this afternoon that will insure performance of

most important tasks efficiently in the fature. VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Set up appointments with the right people early on so that you can further your career or make big headway in social or personal life.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Make it a pleasant task to do something today very practical for those living under your same roof. Remember, it is a privilege as well as a duty.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Start the ball rolling in the right direction this weekend by having a wonderful time with good friends during healthful recreation which will also prove incrative. SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Take the time to add colour and beauty to home surroundings today and then take the time to do a little entertaining that will help brighten the lives of others as well as your own.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Being appreciative of others as well as doing the nice thing that will bring compliments to you is very fine today and will do much to give you and them a brighter outlook on life.

AQUARIUS: (Jamusry 21 to February 19) Take time now to be of help to yourself instead of others as is your usual habit since there is a need to look after some personal interests that need your attention

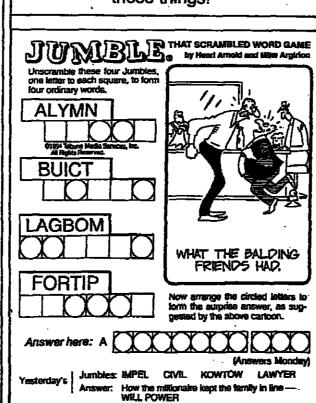
PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Since you are very much governed by Venus, your charm is most evident at this time and others are auxious to please you. Don't be retoent. Get out and

Birthstone of February: Amethyst - Onyx

THE Daily Crossword by Dorothy B. Martin



Carrots are bad for you! You could trip and poke your eye out with one of these things!"





**Indy Capp** 

**'eanuts** 

THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE NICE

TO DROP A LITTLE NOTE TO

SANTA CLAUS'S WIFE ..





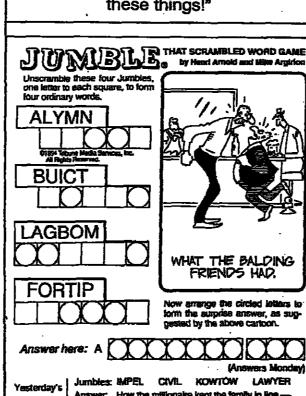
Dear Signora Claus,

DIDN'T SEE ANYTHING













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A review

of economic news

from the Arabic press

Prices of

newspapers

likely to rise

\* As a result of higher

international prices and de-

mand for printing paper,

costs for the production of

newspapers and magazines

will be rising and, as such, it

is likely that prices of news-

papers and magazines will

increase soon. A noticeable

price increase will also affect

books, copybooks and other

paper products (Sawt Al Shaab).

★ A ministerial committee

will reconsider the distribu-

tion of allotments among

companies which transport

oil from Iraq to Jordan. The

reason behind the formation

of the committee was a com-

plaint by drivers at Al Naber

Company that the distribu-

tion of shipments was not fair

and resulted in idling 100 fuel

tankers and their drivers (Al

of a geographical survey con-

ducted by the Ministry of

Energy and Natural Re-

sources indicate that there

are oil deposits at the Dead

Sea area. However, it is still

not yet known if the quantity

of the oil is commercial and

economically feasible. The

ministry is now studying a

proposal to set up a private

company to be totally owned

by the state and to be fi-

nanced by either the treasury

or by loans to explore for oil

in the coming few months (Al

☆ ★ Royal Jordanian de-

cided to add two new wings

to the free shop at the Queen Alia International Airport.

The two wings, which will be operational shortly, are to be

located at the ground floor of

the departure terminals in

both the northern and south-

em buildings. This expansion

will be followed by having

two, of the four sections of

the free shop, operating around the clock. The free

shop sales exceeded JD 10

★ ★ The international con-

sultancy firm contracted to evaluate the assets and liabilities of the Jordan Electricity

Authority has finished its

task and presented its report

at the beginning of this

month. The first step towards

privatising the authority is

expected in March (Al

\* The minister of supply

anthorised his staff to relay to

local newspapers the names,

addresses, types of violations

and the court sentences of all

found guilty of supply viola-tions (Sawt Al Shaab).

★★ The Amman Chamber

of Industry will organise a

comprehensive industrial ex-

hibition in May in celebration

of Jordan's Independence

★☆ The Jordanian Industrial Estates Corporation will soon

begin setting up two indust-

rial cities, one north of Am-

man, one south of the capital

to meet the demands of in-

dustrial investors (Al Dus-

★★ The Middle East Bank

anniversary (Al Aswaq).

Aswaq).

million in 1993 (Al Ra'i).

Dustour).

# RDAY, FEBRUARY 4 plans new ery policy

1975-90 civil war is closed the 17.000-b/d Zahrani bet 17.000-b/d Za Rizk said.

Rizk said.

The state would have a corporation's initial to be the sign investors and 25 per continue to be a could be raised on the beautiful market. The study showed that to could start the could ing money in two or the Fears, Mr. Rzik said.

It showed that with a significant investment the reference of a start produce a start p

Construction of a 100M of refinery at Zahrani work axe five or six years and on the five out of the five of six years and on the five outlier. Mr. Rizk and the bound this refinerit te south we will only have te south we will only have to the state of the more money is each 130,000 or 150,000 by 2005 or 2010, meaning at the output of the to fineries would leave at a יאון ליוהא יונ Asked if he had a companion to take up the 50 pe

ai foreign shareholding Proposed corporation Rick said: "Man nerican. British. German Mr. Rizk said two out mes. British and Insh ar erested in carrying out new

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FEERUARY 4, 1995

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Electric ampreciative of and with sout them a and a mark to be of La nabilicase there's ин прес училителаю

ing the very much cer i cres care and

has obtained approval to increase its capital from JD 4 million to JD 10 million and the bank is now arranging to begin the executive stage (Al Aswaq). ★★ The 1995 budget for Karak totals JD 39 million, of which JD 20 million are for recurrent spending and JD 19 million for capital spending (Al Ra'i). \*\* Eleven Jordan companies and institutions are to

tour).

take part in Frankfurt's Ambiente 95 exhibition which starts on Feb. 18, 1995 (Al Ra'i). tries products during the second half of last year

\* Sales of Aladdin indusamounted to JD 2.3 million, of which JD 281,000 were earnings from exports (12 per cent of total sales). The company's balance sheet shows the net profit amounting to JD 334,661 (Al Aswaq). AMMAN FIRANCIAL MARKET HOUSING BANK CENTER ANNAH - SERGISANI TREEPROME: 660170 / 663170

ORGANISED MARKET TRADING ACTIVITY FOR THE PERIOD (28/01/1995 - 01/02/1995)

	WEEKLY REPORT				
	COMPANY'S SAME	TRADISG VOLUMS JD	PREV. CLOSING PRICE	PRICE	CLOSING PRICE
	ARAB BANK	407.330	184-500	184 500	
	JORDAN NATIONAL BANK	66,416			4.280
	JORDAN RATIONAL BANK / NEW	101,050			4.160
	BANK OF JORDAN	75,224	3.650	3.650	3.600
ł	MIDDLE EAST INVESTMENT BANK.	2,712	1.550	1.550	1.470
	INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK	· 3,903	2.850	2.850	2.840
	THE HOUSING BANK	161,088		6.180	5.950
	JORDAN KUWAIT BANK	34,436			3.000
	JORDAN GULP BANK JORDAN ISLANIC BANK	6,969			
ı	UNION BANK FOR SAVING & INVESTMENT	201, <b>888</b> 607			
	BUSINESS BANK	875			
	JORDAN INVESTMENT & PINANCE BANK	848			
Į	BEIT ELICAL SAVINGE INVESTMENT FOR HOUSING				
	ANGUAH BARK FOR INVESTMENT	382,177			
	ARAB BANKING CORPORATION/JORDAN	4,837	4.200	4.200	4-150
	PRILADELPRIA INVESTMENT BANK.	23,735	1.600	1.600	1.520
	BAFRS SECTOR		1472001 CEARGE	INDEX N	UNGSER: 158.26 1.09×
١	UNITED INSURANCE	14,130		3.000	
١	ARABIAH SEAS INSURANCE	293			
١	Jordan Presch Ingurance	42,920			
Į	YARHOUR INSURANCE & REIMBURANCE	7,905		3.050	3.100
ı	ARAB LIFE & ACCIDENT INSURANCE	4,810	2.600	2.600	2.600
	ISSURANCE SECTOR		70065 CEANGE		 UMBER: 136.17 0.37%
(	JORDANIAN ELECTRIC POWER				
Ì	JORDANIAN MINCERIC POWER / NEW	111,719 160,386		1.550	1.480 1.390
ı	JORDAN HOTEL & TOURIEM	1,563		6.050	
ı	JORDAN HIMER MINERAL	590	2.820	2.820	
١	arab international notels	13,327	5.050	5.050	5.000
ı	JORDAN MATTOWAL SHIPPING LINES	61,209	3.380	3.380	3.240
1	NATIONAL PORTFOLIO SECURITIES	-	2.290	2.290	
1	JORDAN GULF REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT JORDAN INTERNATIONAL TRADING CENTER	-	1.190		1.150
Į	URITED MIDDLE BAST & COMMODORE MOTELS	970 47,730	-	1.020 2.400	
١	ARAB INTER. FOR INVESTMENT & EDUCATION	20,977		3.600	3.540
	SERVICES SECTOR		446241 CHANGE	INDEX M	MBER: 130.61
ł	TORRER MORNOCO L CTORRERORS	TE 222		-	
1	JORDAN TOBACCO & CIGARETTES THE JORDAN CEMENT FACTORIES	15,662	27.490		
	JORDAN PHOSPHATE MINES	-	2.850		
	THE ARAB POTASR/NEW		5.150		
1	JORDAN PETROLEUM REFINARY	57,223	9.610	9.610	9.500
1	JORDAN TANKING		7.500		
1	THE INDUSTRIAL CONGERCIAL & AGRICULTURAL THE JORDAN WORSTED KILLS	-			
1	ARAB PHARMACEUTICAL MANUPACTURING	169,362	7.900 5.150		
1	FORDAM CERAMIC IMPOSTRIES		6.250		
	JORDAN DAIRY		2.300		
j		11,696			
١	JORDAN PAPER & CARDBOARD FACTORIES		4.200		
١	SPINNING & WEAVING .		2.630		
	RAFIA INDUSTRIES DAR AL DAMA DEVELOPMENT & INVESTMENT		2.770 16.250		
	ARAB INVESTMENT & INFRMATIQUAL TRADE		1.020		
	ARAB ALUHINIUM INDUSTRY		7.100		
	LIVESTOCK & POULTRY		0.870		
	ARAB PAPER CONVERTING & TRADING	-	1.430		

# Financial scams

## soar in Russia

MOSCOW (AP) - Swindlers, bribers and hackers committed 56 per cent more economic crimes in Moscow in 1994, scamming thousands of Muscovites out of millions of rubles, city police have said.

Vladimir Vershkov, spokesman for the Moscow Interior Department, said that 1,066 major economic crimes had been reported last year, 375 incidents of bribery and 1,481 illegal acts concerning precious metals and

And these are just the official figures. Mr. Vershkov estimates that real figures could be as much as five times higher.

City police have prosecuted "a large number" of those responsible, Mr. Vershkov said. "But there is no way to hunt all these criminals down.

The most profitable economic crimes in 1994 were tied to investment companies. At the request of dissatisfied investors, Moscow police investigated 70 of the capital's estimated 2,000 investment firms, and discovered over 300 billion roubles (\$75 million) in stolen or diverted funds.

Thirteen of the 70 companies had ceased payment of dividends to their investors for unexplained reasons, and over 50 criminal cases had been brought against them. Crimes against investors increased 50.1 per cent over 1993, Mr. Vershkov said.

Computer hackers working within Russia's banks also helped major criminal groups steal millions of dollars, Mr. Vershkov said. He could not give exact figures. Economic crimes involving

hard currency trading increased 35.1 per cent over 1993, and reports of bribery were up 18.3 over the pre-Mr. Vershkov said police

especially cracked down on

illegal trading in the city's

markets, where authorities say foreign traders earn huge sums without paying taxes. The Commercant newspaper has reported that during a raid on one Vietnamese trading company, police found illegal goods worth 28

and \$441 million in cash. But Moscow's financial scandal of the year involved the huge MMM investment

billion roubles (\$7 million),

# Banks, credits become key factors in trading at AFM

By a Jordan Times staff reporter

AMMAN — Apprehension over a temporary drain of capital from the trading floor coupled with a tightening of commercial credits depressed turnover and prices of the Amman Financial Market (AFM) last week, but the situation could improve soon,

brokers said Friday. They said a Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) directive to all Jordanian commercial banks to increase their capital to JD 20 million before the end of 1996 was immediately interpreted by investors as leading to a shift to capital from the secondary market to the primary market and a consequent squeeze on liquidity for trading on the

floor. Similarly, the CBJ's move to enforce its regulations and limitations on commercial bank credits to individual accounts also took its toll on the market last week.

The weekly report of the AFM said turnover for the week ending Thursday dropped by 41.2 per cent to ID 4 million from the previous week's JD6.8 million. Around two million shares changed handed under 3,100 contracts, the report said. The general share price in-

panies among the nearly 120 firms listed in the market closed at 142.3 points, down 2.2 points or 1.1 per cent, the report said.

Prices in the services sector dropped three points or 2.2 per cent, industrial stock shed 2.8 points or 2.2 per cent, commercial bank stock lost 1.7 points or 1.1 per cent and insurance stock dropped by 0.5 points or 0.4 per cent

during the week. Commercial banks accounted for JD 1.5 million of the week's volume, or 37.5 per cent, followed by industrial stock with JD 1.3 million, or 32.5 per cent, the services sector with JD 1.1 million, or 27.5 per cent, and insurance stock with 33,000 dinars, or 2.5 per cent.

Shares of 78 companies were traded during the week, with only four of them closing with gains, 66 losing and eight remaining stable. Brokers said many specula-

tors thought that the raise in the capital of commercial banks would eventually lead to a shift of up to JD 300 million from the trading floor at varying points in the next two years.

"It is true that the funds will not be disappearing from the market and would be back on the floor with the

lieve that prices could drop during the transition," said a broker. "When prices drop in the banking sector, it is only natural that other sectors will also suffer.

Furthermore, said the broker, who cannot be identified by name under standing market guidelines, the ceiling imposed by the CBJ on commercial bank credits to 10 per cent of any bank's capital and reserves to any individual account also had a strong. effect on the market.

"By and large, the share of commercial bank credits in the capital available in the market is significant, and any move that affects such credits always have an impact on prices and trading in the market," said the broker. "There may not be much logic in the interpretation of the impact of the central bank moves. but the logic applied by inves-tors at the AFM based on their own reasoning does not always make sense to an out-

Another factor that is continuing to affect liquidity in the market is an increase in interest on commercial bank deposits which has lured some of the capital away brokers said.

# U.K. consumer body slams Unilever's Persil Power

LONDON (R) - Britain's top consumer watchdog Thursday slammed Unilever PLC-N.V.'s controversial washing powder Persil Power, saying it damaged clothes in the wash even in its new improved version.

The Consumers Association magazine which, after a five-month test, said that even the reformulated Persil Power with less of the key manganese-based accelerator ingredient caused significant deterioration in washed gar-

"Persil Power can damage some clothes. There can be no argument now that Persil Power - in both formulas is anything but the wonder soap claimed," which magazine's acting editor Helen

The result is largely academic since Unilever decided last month to put its promotional spend behind a new generation Persil without accelerator and recommend Persil Power for only special uses. Many retailers are not restocking Persil

Unilever's Lever Brothers Detergents Unit was dismissive of the report, saying the tests did not take into account the detailed washing instructions on each Persil But the report comes as the

final nail in the coffin for Persil Power after mounting criticism of the detergent from Dutch consumer groups and Unilever's U.S.-based arch rival Procter Gamble

The tests involved 100 volunteers who wore some 200 garments washed total of around 6,000 times. Strength tests showed that clothes washed with reformulated Persil Power were 1.5 times weaker than those washed by rival brands, and those washed by the original Persil Power were even

The watchdog wants Lever to make sure Persil Power carries a warning not to use it on coloured garments, pay compensation to those with damaged clothes, and to offer to exchange Persil Power for new generation Persil when this is finally launched.

Lever replied that Persil Power packs state it should not be used for regular washing of coloured articles, and its guarantee of quality makes any compensation unnecessary while it already offers a money back guarantee for dissatified consum-

Andrew Seth, managing director of Lever Brothers. was unrepentant: "Based on all the evidence gathered, we remain confident that when using Power according to the instructions, consumers will have no cause for com-

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#### Iordan Times JORDAN MARKET PLACE **Financial** Markets Cairo Amman Bank

#### U.S. Dellar in International Markett Tokyo Cłose ₩ 1/2/95 nur 2/2/95 FOR RENT 1.5822\*\* 1.5828 1.5183 1.5193 Many apartments and villa

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Sterling Pound	6.18	6-50	6.81	6.56	
Deutsche Mark	4.75	4.81	5.00	5.43	
Swiss Franc	3,50	3.68	3.93	4.25	
French Franc	5.57	5.62	6.00	6.50	

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JORDAN ROCKWOOL INDUSTRIES

JORDAN SULPHO-CHEMICALS

JORDAN INDÚSTRIES & MATCH/JINCO

FORDAM INDÚSTRIAL RESOURCES CO.

MATIONAL CABLE & WIRE MANUFACTURING

ARAB CENTER FOR PEARM. & CHENICALS

INDUSTRIAL SECTOR

ALADDIE INDUSTRIES

KANTHER INVESTMENT

Carrency

Sterling Pound

Deutsche Mark

Swiss Franc-

French Pranc

Date: 2/2/1995 Offer U.S. Dollar 0.7610 0.6990 Sterling Pound 1\_1088 1.1033 0.4598 0.4621 Swiss Franc 0.5438 0.5465 French Franc 0.1326 a.1333 Japanese Yeu's 6.1032-4.7067 Dutch Guilder 0.4102 0.4123 Swedich Krona \*\*\*\* \*\*\*\*

Italias Lira <sup>e</sup>	0.0434	0.0436		
Per 100				
Other Currencies	Date	Date: 2/2/1995		
Ситемсу	Rid	Offer		
Bahraini Dissa	1.2310	1.8506		
Lebonese Litz*	0.041575	0.043745		
Saudi Riyal	0.1858	0.1669		
Kowaid Dinar	2.3100	2.3600		
Qutari Riyal	0.1908 .	0.1920		
Egyption Pound	0.2000	0.2140		
Omani Riyal	1.8060	1.8160		
UAE Dirkus	0.1897	0.1986		
Grack Drockses*	0.2845	0.3285		
Cynrid Pautd	1.3940	1.4970		



















Yannick Noah, captain of the French Davis Cup tennis team, looks at the opening round pairings on Thursday. The French team will

# U.S. Davis Cup coach not underestimating France

(AP) - Tom Gullikson keeps hearing the United States should have no trouble against France this weekend in the opening round of the Davis Cup.

Gullikson, the U.S. Davis Cup captain, wants no part of it. He knows what happened in 1991, when the French beat the Americans in the Davis Cup final.

"Bookmakers make the odds," he said Thursday. "That really doesn't concern

"Whether we're playing a team that we're supposed to dominate or that is supposed to dominate us doesn't really matter. We're coming in here to play our best tennis."

And if that happens, French captain Yannick Noah suggests, it could be a rout for the United States.

Noah also was captain of the French team that won the 1991 Davis Cup. That squad included three of the four players currently representing France — Guy Forget, Oliver Delaitre and Arnaud Boetsch. The other player is Cedric Pioline, who is playing instead of Henri Leconte.

"it's a very good situation for us," Noah said. "We don't have anything to lose. We're playing a team that is supposed to beat us and that

is playing before their crowd." Noah said. "We can very well lose 5-0, but we could just as well win 3-2 or

With Australian Open finalists Andre Agassi and Pete Sampras taking time off, the American team consists of Jim Courier and Todd Martin and the doubles pair of Jared Palmer and Richey Reneberg.

Pioline, a 1993 U.S. Open finalist, will try to get the French in the opening match against Martin at the 6,000seat bayfront seater. Guy Forget will face Courier in the second made.
Palmer and Reneberg.

winners of the Australian Open doubles title last week, will face Forget and Oliver Delaitre in Satuday's dou-

Sunday's singles matchups on the indoor carpet surface that both teams said favours the Americans are Martin vs. Forget and vs. Pioline.

On paper, the United States should have no problem advancing to the second round against the winner of the first-round match between Czech Republic and Italy, Courier is No. 12 in the world and Martin is No. 13, while Forget and Pioline are ranked 37th and 50th, respec-

Noah showed how important Saturday's doubles may be to France's chances when he paired Forget with De-laitre to face Palmer and Reneberg, who are No. 1 after

their first Grand Slam title. The Germany-Croatia match is one of eight firstround world group matches being played this week.

South Africa, playing in the World Group for the first time, plays host to Australia in Durban, South Africa fields Wayne Ferreira and Marcos Ondruska in singles and Piet Norval and Garry Muller in doubles, while Australia counters with Patrick Rafter, Richard Fromberg and doubles parters Todd Woodbridge and Mark Woodforde.

Defending champion Sweden plays Denmark in Copenhagen. Sweden is going with the same team that beat Russia for the title in December: Stefan Edberg and Magnus Larsson in singles and Jan Apell and Jonas Bjorkman in doubles.

Russia, which faces Belium in Brussels, also has its 1994 final lineup: Yevgeny Kafelnikov, Alexander Volkov. Andrei Olhovskiv and Andrei Chesnokov.

split personality and that at the first meeting he only saw Other matchups include the Netherlands vs. Mansell's public image, the flamboyant race winner.

# Rockets end Utah Jazz road streak HOUSTON (R) — Home or away, all good things must end in the NBA.

The Houston Rockets squelched the Utah Jazz's assault on the National Basketball Association record for successive wins on the road on Thursday, and the

Mansell

signs for

McLaren

cedes.

love driving.

LONDON (AFP) - The

wost kept secret in motor

racing was revealed Friday

vho will partner Finn Mika

Hakkinen, will be competing

in his 13th full Formula One season, but insists "you can't stop the fire burning if you

He added he was moti-

vated like never before and

can't walk away from it.

new engines, and that driver

weight was no longer impor-

tant. He has usually been the

heaviest driver giving a tiny but vital speed handicap.

Mansell noted McLaren

had won 104 Grands Prix and he had won 31. "We have

been competitors and ene-

mies. When they won I usual-

ly lost. Now it's like starting a

Managing Director Ron De-nnis said it had taken five

weeks of complicated nego-

tiations to agree the deal with

Mansell, after a catastrophic

In the end, he revealed,

they had stuck over the last

\$100,000 of the deal, and

finally agreed to give it to charity. Mansell adding that his half share would probably

go to charities near his gold club near Exeter, in south

western England. No figure

for the deal was announced,

but there was speculation

Mansell will get five million pounds for the season.

Dennis had said last year

he did not employ drivers he

did not understand, and he

didn't understand Nigel Man-

At the announcement, be

After some straight talk-

ing, he said, he found

explained that Mansell had a

McLaren International

new career."

first meeting.

when it was confirmed that Seattle Supersonics ended the Orlando Magic's homeformer World Champion Nigel Mansell will contest in 1995 Formula One chamcourt perfection this season. In Houston, Hakeem Olapionship for McLaren Merjuwon scored 41 points and the NBA champion Rockets The 41-year-old Mansell, opened the fourth quarter

> snap the 15-game road win strak of the Utah Jazz, 121-Utah was attempting to tie the all-time road winning streak of 16 games held by the 1971-72 Los Angeles Lakers. Utah's 15-game road winning streak is the second

with a decisive 28-12 run to

was driving to win, not to wind down his career. "Win-ning," he said, "you taste, feel and sense it, and you longest in NBA history. Everyone knows they have a great team," said Utah coach Jerry Sloan. "We He said he was excited by the fact there were new reghad a great run. That was a great streak." ulations, with new cars and

Olaiuwon hit 15-of-22 shots from the field and 11of-15 from the foul lines. It was his sixth 40-point game of

"The biggest thing is get-ting the win," said Rockets coach Rudy Tomjanovich." Sam Cassell scored 11 of his 16 points in the fourty quarter and sparked the decisive run with three 3pointers. Houston hit 16 of 22 shots from the field, including seven 3-pointers, in the fourth quarter when they outscored Utah 46-30. Houston hit 62.7 per cent from the

field for the game. "Well, they hit six, seven straight 3-pointers, not much you can do about that," said Utah guard Jeff Hornacek, who was bounded defensively by Houston's Vernon Maxwell and hit just 2-of-11 shors from the field.

"I don't think we played that great, but we were in it right until they hit every-

Karl Malone led Utah with

Utah's John Stockton, who became the NBA's all-time assists leader Wednesday, had 17 points and five assists. Orlando suffered its first loss at home this season, 106-103 to Seattle, but Magic

coach Brian Hill wasn't

crying.
"The streak was nothing but a positive," said Hill. straight road game. Seattle won both meetings between the teams this season, includ-"It's not sad that we lost, ing a 124-84 trouncing at Seattle on December 17. we're still 21-1 at home." Gary Payton scored 26 "If we're going to lose at home to break the streak, at least it was to a good basketbali team," Hill said.

iston Rockets star Hakeem Ojajuwou #34 makes a hasty shot under double coverage by

"We knew it would be a hard game," Seattle's Shawn Kemp said: "We just stepped up and accepted the chal-

nge."
Orlando, which made just 20-of-32 free throws, played without forward Horace Grant, who missed the game due to pain in his power back. Nick Anderson of the Magic scored 14 points before leaving with a wrist in-

Órlando fell into a tie with the Phoenix Suns for the best record in the league, 35-9.

At Detroit, Joe Dumars hit a 3-pointer with 2:23 remaining to give the Pistons the lead for good and added a free throw in the closing seconds to seal an 85-83 victory over the Cleveland

Grant Hill led the Pistons with 22 points and Dumars

finished with 17. The loss was the fourth in a row for the Cavaliers, who are 3-7 since losing star guard

Mark Price to injury.
Terrell Brandon led the Cavaliers with 15 points. In Sacramento, Walt Williams scored 20 points and the Kings held Chicago to just 24 points in the second half to defeat the Bulls 88-68.

Chicago scored only 11 points in the third quarter and 13 in the fourth quarter.

Mitch Richmond had 17 pints and Spud Webb added 14 for the Kings.

Scottie Pippen led Chicago with 22 points.

#### RESULTS

Detroit 85, Cleveland 83 Seattle 106, Orlando 103 Houston 121, Utah 101 Sacramento 88, Chicago 68

# Pierce bows out of Toray tennis

TOKYO (Agencies) — Australian Open champion mary rierce was beaten friday by Magdalena Maleeva in the quarter-finals of the \$806,250 Toray Pan Pacific Open tennis tournament

The 20-year-old French player, who clinched her first Grand Slam title at Melbourne last Sunday, went down 3-6, 6-1, 3-6.

The Bulgarian also beat Pierce in their first encounter in the Federation Cup in Frankfurt last year.

Wimbledon champion Conchiuta Martinez of Spain was upset by Japan's top player Kimiko Date 0-6, 6-2, 6-3 in the quarter-finals of the Pan Pacific Open women's tennis tournament Friday.

Despite an easy first set, the top seed, who has lost some form since her Wimbledon triumph, played erratically, with unforced errors in both forehand and backhand ground strokes.

The 24-year-old Date became more and more aggressive as she broke fourth ranked Martinez to lead 5-1 in the final set. After failing on two match

points, 10th-ranked Date finally sealed victory when Martinez's backhand return went long. In the semifinals date will meet eighth seed Iva Majoli of Croatia, who earlier beat unseeded Japanese Naoko

Sawamatsu 4-6, 6-3, 6-0. American Lindsay Davenport, seeded third, reached Saturday's semifinals when she came from behind to beat sixth seed Anke Huber of Germany 2-6, 6-4, 6-2.

Medvedeva inspired by pop singer

Natalia Medvedeva credited pop singer Cliff Richard with the inspiration for her



quarterfinal victory Friday in the \$107,500 Amway Classic women's tennis championship in Auckland, New Zealand.

Medvedeva, the seventh seed from Ukraine, defeated Australian Rachel McQuillan 6-4, 6-1 after attending a Richard concert the previous night and also practising with the singer — a keen amateur

Medvedeva now will play No. 2 seed and defending champion Ginger Helgeson Nielsen of the United States

in the semifinals. Heigeson Nielsen had a walkover Friday after her fifth-seeded Chinese opponent Fang Li withdrew from the tournament after suffering a knee injury in a doubles

match. Medvedeva said she had been lifted by Richard's atti-

"I was really impressed because he gives everything, he gives 100 per cent, and that's what makes him the greatest." she said.

"I learned from that I was trying to do what he did last night, which was to give my

Medvedeva trailed 2-4 in the first set but then won 10 of the last 11 games after harnessing her groundstrokes in difficult windy conditions.

## SPORTS IN BRIEF

two opponents (AFP photo)

points and Anfernee Hard-

away missed two critical free

throws with 2.1 seconds left,

the second deliberately, as

the Supersonics beat Orlando

time in 22 home games de-

spite 39 points and 15 re-

bounds from Shaquille

O'Neal. The Magic, who

unbeaten team at home, had

won 24 straight at Orlando

Arena dating back to last

and 18 lead changes and no

team had a lead greater than

Detief Schrempf added 22

points for Seattle and Sam

Perkins had 14 rebounds as

the Sonics won their seventh

The game featured 13 ties

came in the last remain

Orlando lost for the first

106-103.

ason.

seven points.

#### Aouita, Cason skipping Millrose

NEW YORK (AFP) - Former world record holder Said Aouita of Morocco and world indoor 60m record holder Andre Cason are among five top athletes who have dropped out of the Millrose Games here, officials have said. Aouita, making a comeback at age 35 after three years out of the sport, was to have raced in the 3,000m but bowed out because of bronchitis. No reason for Cason's departure was given. Butch. Reynolds, the world outdoor record-holder at 400 metres, decathlon world champion and world record-holder Dan O'Brien, and Joe Greene, the 1992 Olympic long jump bronze medallist, were among the late scratches for the games at Madison Square Garden Meet organisers said that both Reynolds and Greene had hamstring injuries, and O'Brien a strained quadricep.

#### Salenko wants to play in Japan

MOSOCW (R) — Striker Oleg Salenko, out of favour with both Valencia and the Russian national team, has denounced the Spanish side's coach as incompetent and said he would like to play in Japan. Salenko — who set a World Cup record last year by scoring five times against Cameroon — told Sport Express newspaper that Brazil's World Cup-winning coach Carlos Alberto Parreira was to blame for Valencia's woes. Valencia are 11th in the Spanish first division, nine points behind leaders Real Madrid.

#### Mandela receives Jesse Owens Global Award

NEW YORK (AP) - South African President Nelson Mandela was announced as winner of the second Jesse Owens Global Award, given biennally to an individual "who has made a significant and lasting contribution of enduring quality to society from a background of sports."
The Global Award also goes to a person who has "shown distinguished leadership in the field through personal example of work, deeds or written and spoken statements over a period of years." Mandela was an amateur Boxer in South Africa as a younger, winner of the 1993 Nobel Peace Prize, Mandela struggled to end apartheid in South Africa and move his country toward democracy.

#### Accola crashes into trainer

VEYSONNAZ, Switzerland (AFP) — Swiss skier Paul Accola was rushed to hospital after a bad collision with coach Fritz Zueger. Accola, the 1992 World Cup winner, was reported to have torn ligaments and damaged his right knee cartilage after hurtling into Zueger at full speed. Zueger broke seven ribs.

#### Stoichkov and Cruyff in feud

BARCELONA (AFP) — European Player of the Year Hristo Stoichkov and Barcelona coach Johan Cruyff are no longer on speaking terms, and the Bulgarian striker's future at the Spanish club is in doubt. "There is no question of me packing my bags now," said Stoichkov, "but whether will be here next season is another matter." The 28-year-old Bulgarian launched a public attack on his Dutch coach in Lisbon, where he attended the presentation of FIFA's world player of the year award to friend and former Barcelona team-mate Romario. "Something has gone wrong between me and the coach," he said. "When we lose I am always the one singled out for blame. When we win, the whole team get the praise."

#### Chiefs Deny Montana had serious knee surgery

KANSAS CITY (AP) - The Kansas City Chiefs on Thursday denied reports that surgery on Joe Montana's knee was more difficult than expected and said he spent the day taking flying lessons. The operation was nothing different than a number of players have following a rugged football season, said Chiefs spokesman Bob Moore. ESPN, a cable television station, reported on Super Bowl Sunday that the surgery was more serious, and that Montana would need a longer recuperation period than was expected. Moore said the report was wrong.

#### Mota to seal career at Atlanta Olympics

LONDON (R) — Rosa Mota, the most successful women's marathon runner ever, hopes to set the seal on her career with the Olympic title in Atlanta next year at the age of 38. Mota, who has won Olympic and world titles plus three European golds, dropped out of the Tokyo Marathon last November in her first race for 21/2-years. But she is now training in Porto in the north of Portugal in preparation for Atlanta under coach and husband Jose Pedroso.

#### Women's pro baseball league to open

ATLANTA (AFP) - A six-team European women's professional baseball league, backed by organisers of a U.S. women's team, will open June in France, Spain and Italy, officials said here Thursday. The Mediterranean Baseball League will feature players from among 2,500 who tried out for the Colorado Silver Bullets touring U.S. team. U.S. college coaches will instruct teams of 20 players, five of whom will be from the host nation. "People in Europe love sports and love anything that is American.

### GOREN BRIDGE

with omar sharef 4 tannah hersch COMP FOR THE QUEEN Both vulnerable. North deals. NORTH **4Q73** ♥AK6 AK6 0876 0A743 EAST 0652 0J 0K WEST # K 10 5 4 Q J 9 6 SOUTH 4 A K 10 4 V 10 7 5 3 2 **⊕82** South West 1 V Pass 4 V Pass Pass Pass Pass

Page Page
Opening lead: Five of O
Unless you have reason to believe
you are being sold a bill of goods,
accept cards the defenders play at
their face value. This kernel stood
Bill Ciszek in good stead on this
hand from a rubber bridge game at
the San Francisco Bridge Chib.
We like North's raise to two
hearts, despite the 4-3-3-3 pattern,
and only three-card support. If you
suppress a holding headed by A K,
you will have difficulty later in convincing pattner of the grality of vincing partner of the quality of

your trumps.

Four hearts was an excellent contract—a laydown if trumps were 3-2 As a matter of technique Ciszek ducked the opening diamond lead and wor the continuation with the aca. Next came another good play-conceding a club trick to the defunders.

Declarer miffed the diamond re-

Declarer ruffed the diamond re-turn, then cashed the king of hearts, fetching the jack from East. If that was an honest card, declarer was in danger of losing two trump tricks and the contract, unless a coup could be engineered.

After cashing the are of clubs, declarer ruffed a club in hand, then played off three rounds of spades ending in dummy. The table's last club was led and, when East fol-lowed, declarer simply discarded the spade from hand. West was forced to ruff, then had to lead a trump away from Q 9 into declarer's comto run, then and to send a trump away from Q 9 into declarer's com-bined A 10 tenace. Making four-odd

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heart failure.

Mr. Fred Perry passed

"Fred Perry was a super-

He won the affection

championships for more

than 50 years and all those

involved in both the club

and the championships will

retain a lasting and fond

"Fred was one of those

rare individuals. He was at

ease with all — from the

youngest fans to royalty."

Australia's former Davis

Cup captain and Wimble-

don champion Neale Fraser

described Perry A great

smile, always seemed to be

happy, said Fraser of his

days ago at the (Austra-

lian) Open and now he's

gone. It's very sad, but he

can rest easily. He did a

wonderful job for a great

game. He's left his mark."

sional in 1936, Perry cap-tured eight Grand Slam singles titles. In addition to

Bertrand

all wet in

Cup

America's

SAN DIEGO (AFP) -

OneAustralia skipper John

Bertrand swam with the

whales Thursday but did not

Bertrand fell overboard

enjoy the experience.

Before turning profes-

"I sat with him just a few

'He was always had a

chap to be around.

longtime friend.

memory of him.

#### ad streak Wimbledon champ, dies at 85 at the age of 85. don three straight times from 1934-36, died in hospital in Melbourne, where he was being treated after suffering broken ribs in a fall in his hotel bathroom last week. A short statement issued Friday by the Epworth Hospital on behalf of Perry's family said he had died away suddenly and peacefully from heart failure on Thursday afternoon at the Epworth Hospital,' the ratement said. Tributes to Perry flooded in from around the tennis world. lative ambassador for our sport throughout, the world," All England Club chairman John Curry said in a statement. "He was a great character, bighearted and a true champion in every sense. and admiration of all those involved in tennis...Fred was a central figure at the hot under double comment

South of with IT. The loss was the fourt. fow for the Cavalier. are - since losing star 2 Mary Price to injury Terroil Brandon les Cavaliers with 15 point scored 20 points: the 24 counts in the sec na die Gefeat the Bullige Chicago scored nak n ine third are ine fourth gree Milian Richmond 🔄 Territy and Spud Webbas le for the Kings. Propen led On-

Detroit 85. Chem g

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RESULIS

GOREN BRIDE

A THE CHART SHARE S TANNAH HIRSON S TANNAH HIRSON THE POR THE QUEE NORTH + 173 A K 6 + 7 6 A 7 4 3 EAST - 4 5 5 5

here Thursday as his boat lost a light-wind race to unbeaten \* 6188 SOLTE + 4 E 104 10 7 5 3 2 Team New Zealand in the second round of the Louis Vuitton Cup challenger trials for the America's Cup. Bertrand, 47, was embarrassed but not harmed. The man who sailed Alan Bond's Australia II to victory over

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1983 to take the Cup Down Under was in the 58-degree water for about 12 seconds. Light winds continued to plague the event. The races were delayed by almost two hours as overhead television cameras showed California gray whales migrating through the race course.

Dennis Conner's Liberty in

When racing began, the Australians trailed Peter Blake's "Black Magic" by only two boat lengths at the first leeward mark. They were starting to drop

their spinnaker when Bertrand moved toward the port side of the middle of the boat. Then he appeared to lose his balance and landed in the water feet first.

Bertrand grabbed a line as he fell and lost his cap, but

his three Wimbledon Fred Perry, the last British crowns, Perry won the United States championship at man to win the Wimbledon singles title, died Thursday Forest Hills in 1933, 1934 and 1936, the Australian Perry, who won Wimblechampionship in 1934 and the French title in 1935.

Born in Stockport, Cheshire, Perry was regarded as one of the alltime greats of tennis. He was the first player to win all four major titles, although he did not hold them concurrently.

Perry beat Australia's Jack Crawford in 1934 for his first Wimbledon crown and defended the title the following year when he defeated Germany's Baron Gottfriend Von Cramm.

In 1936, Perry defeated Von Cramm 6-1, 6-1, 6-0 in 40 minutes in the shortest Wimbledon final this cen-

"In those days we had no prize money like they have today," Perry recalled in a recent interview. "When I won Wimbledon, I was given two sugars in my tea instead of one by the Wimbledon committee. We played for pride.'

Perry said the achievement he most cherished was Britain's Davis Cup triumph over France in Paris 1933. After beating Henry Cochet, Perry clin-ched the decisive fifth match with a win over Andre Merlin to bring the trophy to Britain for the first time since 1911.

Perry led Britain to Davis Cup championship with victories over France (1933), the United States (1934-35) and Australia (1936). He won 45 out of 52

Davis Cup matches for Britain and 34 out of 38 singles between 1931-36. Perry was renowned as

an aggressive competitor with tremendous selfconfidence and a remarkable running forehand. Shortly after his last Wimbledon triumph, Perry

moved to the United States to turn professional, angering Wimbledon officials.
"I suddenly became persona non grata as far as

tennis was concerned." he said. "It just wasn't done anywhere except the United States to be a pro. I wasn't allowed back to Wimbledon, where my membership was rescinded, or to any other tournament affiliated with a national

Fred Perry, Britain's last

federation. The rift was healed in 1984 when Wimbledon erected a statue of Perry near Centre Court. The main entrance next to his bronze figure is known as the Fred Perry Gate.

Perry remained active until his death. He ran a highly-successful sportswear company and was a regular member of BBC radio's commentary team at Wimbledon and other major championships from 1949. His annual presence at Wimbledon served as a constant reminder of the sorry state of British tennis. which has no male players in the top 50.

Britain's current No. 1 player Jeremy Bates said Perry would be "sorely

"He would always speak to me in the Wimbledon locker room and there was always a special sensation or aura when he walked into the changing room. which was recognition of what great man he was," Bates said. "It was a joy to speak to

feeling to be in a conversation with him. He always had words of wisdom and encouragement and comments about my matches." Bates, 32, said he enjoyed Perry's "intelligent and lucid" remarks as a radio commentator. "He was always very much up to date with the modern

him and always a special

game" he added. Perry, however, didn't conceal his distaste for the state of today's game.

The trouble with tennis nowadays is that there are too many tournaments and too much money on offer to the stars," he said. "There are simply nor enough top-level competitors to go round. Those that there are wear themselves out with too much tennis, too much travelling and too many other exhausting - if lucrative commitments."

What concerns me most of all is the racket technology. The technology dictates the way the game is played. I think there's a case for getting back to wooden rackets for men because there aren't any touch players any more.

The Lawn Tennis Association, which has sought unsuccessfully to find another British champion, greeted Perry's death with great sadness."

'His playing record commanded universal respect and his wit and warm per-sonality rightly earned him a speical place in the affections of everyone involved in tennis," an LTA state-ment said. "Fred was a wonderful ambassador for the game and the world of tennis will be a poorer place without him."

International Tennis Federation president Brian Tobin also paid tribute to

Until his last moments, Fred was still vitally interested in and enthusiastic about the game he played so well in the 1930s," Tobin said. "Not only was he a great champion he was also a great friend to so many players and national tennis associations over the years. We will all miss him and our sympathies and prayers go out to his wife Bobby and his daughter Penny.

Perry's fourth wife Barbara - known to everyone as "Bobby" - was with him in Melbourne where he had been watching the Australian Open, which finished last Sunday.

His daughter Penny flew into Melbourne on Thursday to be with her father. He also was survived by an adopted son.

Arrangements will be made for Perry's body to be flown home to England for burial, Tennis Australia said a statement. No funeral arrangements have been

rejoining the Italian-British

team now that he has fully

recovered from serious leg

and ankle injuries which put

his racing career at risk back

"It a great opportunity to

drive with Benetton again.

I'm fit, and the engine looks

very good. I have high hopes," Herbert said.

affect driving style," the German driver said.

March 12.

The world F-1 cham-



French couple Sophie Moniotte and Pascal Lavanchy in action at the European Figure Staking Championships in Dortmund (AFP photo)

# **Figure Skating**

# Nine triples earn Kulik gold medal

DORTMUND (Agencies) — but the triple toe loop com-Ilya Kulik soared to the bined with it was over-European Men's Figure Skat- rotated. ing title on his first attempt with a sensational display of nine triple jumps on Thurs-

Though two were slightly flawed, the 17-year-old Moscow sports student confirmed the immense promise he showed when he beat a hugely talented field in the short programme on Wednesday.

Kulik, who won the world iunior title only two months ago, became only the second skater outside the pairs since World War II to capture a European title on his first

The first was 1993 chamon Thursday.

Outstanding though he was, Kulik was surpassed on the night by Olympic cham-pion Alexei Urmanov, his Russian compatriot who leaped from sixth place before the final to snatch the silver medal with a perfect score.

Urmanov, a disappointing fourth at last year's World Championships, skated an exhilarating programme containing eight triple jumps to music from Swan Lake' and gleaned the only perfect 6.0 points for artistry awarded in the final.

pionships circuit is scheduled to begin Latin America on He had left himself to much to do to take gold but he will be heartened after a Schumacher said Benetton's recent engine tests were series of setbacks since his rained out in silverstone. triumph at the Lillehammer

"I will have clearer ideas Olympics last year. Ukrainian Viacheslav (about the new car) following the next tests in Jerez Zagorodniuk secured the (Spain). We will have to bronze medal with Frenchadapt a little bit to the new man Philippe Candeloro. car, although I believe that second in the world last year. new regulations will not fourth after a "Godfather"

routine marred by two jumping mistakes. Those who forecast Kulik might not have the stamina or the experience for the occasion sold him short, though his first jump combination seemed to bear them out.

The triple axel was superb

He recovered beautifully

with a triple lutz landed like a feather and seven more triples flowed from that. He gained steady marks of

5.8 and 5.7 for both technique and artistry. After needing time to recover, Kulik said he had

thought of becoming champion before he came to Dort-"It was a little idea, a dream in my head," he said. But mainly I wanted to

show what I can do in front of a big audience and prove that I belonged among the top skaters. He said he hoped for a long

pion, Ukraine's Dmitry career in the sport "I want to ikate in games and maybe even the one after that."

Kulik said there was less pressure on him than on Urmanov. "As Olympic champion he had that achievement to live up to." Urmanov's programme was exquisite.

"I think it was the best free programme of my life. Everything was smooth. Everything I tried was almost perfect," he said, adding that the pressure was off him after his sixth place in the short programme.

Urmanov, who beat Kulik for the Russian title last month, also confirmed he has been forced to move to Moscow to train because of the closure of the rink in his home city of St. Petersburg.

He will continue to train there ahead of the World Championships in Birmingham, England, next month. Zagorodniuk said he felt

nervous and did not attempt the jump combinations that the others performed. Candeloro, his hair sprayed grey for his portrayal

of the old godfather, ruined his triple lutz with a twofooted, off balance landing. He suffered the same fate

on a triple flip later in the routine.

Skating too much on thin ice

Overexposure is a problem that the International Skating Union must face, but it has nothing to do with the costumes that some skaters Critics say the number of

pro competitions and shows that have come on the scene over the past year are lessening the competitive angle of

"It's a very personal opinion but there is too much exposure," said Lawrence Demmy, a vice-president of

There were the incredible ratings of the skating because of the Kerrigan-harding incident," Demmy said.

"It's very sad that to make skating popular we needed someone to beat up another one," said Carlo Fassi, who coached Olympic champions Peggy Fleming, Dorothy Hamill and the late John

"This is another world now. It's very good for skat-ing," Fassi said. "But they are overexposing it."

The popularity has brought so many competitions among the Olympic medallist that nearly every week there is some kind of pro-event.

Over the past few months there has been the "International Figure Skating com-petition." The world professional skating cham-pionships," "challenge of champions" and "world team skating championship."

All this in addition to the World Championship in Birmingham, which is the only one the ISU recognizes to determine the real world

Demmy understands the reasons for the TV interest. The television networks had the loss of the NFL and the baseball lockout," Demmy said. "And TV had to fill that space."

The enterpreneurs rushed in to take advantage of it and competitions spurted over the past year.

"I hope very soon all of them get together and have just one competition," Fassi

But the ISU doesn't recognise them all.

The ISU is ruling skaters ineligible who compete in unsanctioned events - nearly every one of the TV competi-

'The ISU has sanctioned three open competitions — one in Canada, one in Philadelphia and another in March in Los Angeles," Demmy said.

But he said there may be more ISU-approved competitions next year.

"Every application for open competition will be considered." Demmy said.

The increase in money to be earned has moved stars of today into the pro ranks, perhaps too prematurely.

The skaters who were reinstated for last year's Olympics and returned to the professional ranks, such as Katarina Wiit and Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean, would not be reinstated

Oksana Baiul, the Olympic champion over Kerrigan at Lillehammer, is taking the year off. Although she's just 17, she may be more than \$2 million richer by April 1, the deadline to ask for reinstate-

Demmy anticipates that Baiul will make an application for reinstatement.

"At the ISU Council meeting in may in Athens we will review all the applications for reinstatement," Demmy

But Fassi sees another problem Baiul will face if she comes back to ISU events.

"I saw her in the last competitions and she was just doing a triple Salchow and maybe a triple toe loop," Fassi said. "Those are two of the easier jumps compared to the five different ones she did at the Olympics.

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# Schumacher and team set high goals for 1995

British team which is named

after the Benetton textile

group, will use Renault en-

gines for the first time this

year, after parting with U.S.

The French engine maker

is also the official supplier of

Williams, Benetton's rival

"It's a great challenge to

supply two top F-1 teams,"

said Patrick Faure, Renault's

general director, addressing a

news conference at Benetton

headquarters in this northern

Schumacher will team at

Benetton-Renault with Bri-

tain's Johnny Herbert, who is

town, near Venice.

PONZANO VENETO, Italy While losing the 1994 drivers title, Williams-Renault (AP) — World champion Michael Schumacher and his still won the World makers Benetton team have set high championship for the third goals for the 1995 Formulayear in a row. One season — winning both Benetton, an Italian-

the drivers and makers titles. "We have the potential for shooting a double this year." the German driver said at the unveiling of the brand-new Benetton-Renault car, designed to give him his second consecutive triumph in the yearly auto racing competi-

"I want to say it loudly. Our goal is to stay at the top and win both the world manufacturers and drivers titles this year," team manager Flavio Briatore echoed.

Schumacher, who won the 1994 title following a last-race duel with Williams-Renault Driver Damon Hill, said he expected to face the toughest competition from the English driver and the Williams team again this year.

"In my view, Williams is the team to beat, the team we must watch out. I can't say if winning the (drivers) title will be more difficult than last year. I had a lot of problems in 1994. For sure it will be difficult to stay in front throughout the season," said Schumacher, the first German driver to win a World-F-

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# U.S. said urging Israel to address NPT concerns

- The United States, in its push to ensure the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) becomes permanent, is urging Israel to take steps to satisfy concerns about its nulear intentions. U.S. officials say.

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They also said the Clinton administration was working to arrange - before a key meeting on the treaty's future in New York in April - a joint declaration by the world's five major nuclear powers promising an end to the production of fissile material for nuclear arms. A major speech by Presi-dent Bill Clinton is also plan-

ned for the first week of March, celebrating the 25th anniversary of the NPT's en-The steps are part of an

accelerating campaign by the administration to ensure that the 1968 treaty — the crucial strategic underpinning of efforts to halt the spread of nuclear weapons — is extended indefinitely beyond The alternative would be

an extension for a fixed period after which the NPT would either lapse or face the uphill battle of having to be renewed by a much more complicated ratification process of all member states.

An estimated 60-70 countries are believed to favour permanent extension of the treaty, with 40-50 others leaning towards that position and 20 opposed. Some 86 votes are needed for permanent extension but advocates

Many Third World states are reluctant to sign away nuclear weapons forever while the five declared nuclear powers — the United States, Russia, Britain, France and China — show no inclination to give up theirs.

Arab states also object that Israel, which has not signed the NPT, has nuclear weapons, something the Jewish state has never confirmed. Egypt, a major U.S. aid

recipient, in particular has indicated it may not renew its NPT adherence if Israel does not commit itself in principle to accept the treaty.
Senior U.S. officials, bowing to the reality of the unst-

able regional situation, have said they will not press Israel to sign the treaty now, although their ultimate goal is to have all Middle East nations join the NPT regime. To improve the climate for the NPT conference that be-

gins in New York on April 17, a senior U.S. official said Israel, the number one U.S. aid recipient, has been asked "to take some steps - public steps or private steps - to reassure that their longer terms goals are the same as our longer term goals, including their joining the Non-Proliferation Treaty." Another U.S. official told

Reuters: "Egypt is not insisting that Israel sign on (to the NPT) but just asking for some visible progress in that direction.

"That's something we're working on," he added, Egypt denied Thursday it pute with Israel over signing

Asked if Egypt had agreed to sign the treaty in April, Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa told reporters: "It's not correct, it's not cor-

He was speaking at the end of an unprecedented fourway summit between the leaders of Egypt, Jordan, Israel and the Palestinians to push forward the Middle East

Mr. Musa's Israeli counterpart, Shimon Peres, told Israeli television before leaving for the summit that he believed the two parties were close to resolving the dispute, which has soured relations between the two peace partners.
"I believe that a solution is

pending, that we have already solved or are on the way to solving this crisis," Mr. Peres said, adding that the solution did not include Israel signing the pact.

Mr. Musa said his country

and Israel had agreed to talk about ridding the Middle East of weapons of destruction but Egypt still insisted it would not sign the extension of the NPT unless Israel

signs.
"Our situation towards the NPT and our situation towards the Israeli nuclear programme remains as it is but there will be intensive activities and many contacts which are taking place now between us and the Israelis to see what we can do in this respect," Mr. Musa said.

# U.N. human rights rapporteur for occupied territories resigns

GENEVA (Agencies) — The U.N. Human Rights Commission's (UNHRC) special al community. It is an alibit role that I refuse." Mr. Felber, a former Swiss rapporteur on the occupied territories, Rene Felber, announced his resignation Friday, three days after publishing a scathing report on continued abuses by Israeli

Mr. Felber called in the report on the United Nations to abolish his post. He announced his resignation while formally presenting the document to the commission Friday, telling journalists he feared for the future of the Israel-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) peace process.

The report drew swift condemnation from the outgoing commission president Peter van Wulfften Palthem, who termed it irresponsible, and from the International Jurists' Committee, which accused him of botching his inquiry through "explicit...

In the report, Mr. Felber concluded that neither the U.N. General Assembly nor the commission had met with notable success in improving human rights in the occupied

conscience of the internation-

Its publication, he said, served only to "salve the

foreign minister, said Friday that he regretted that his conclusions "have been understood as a condemnation of the work of the commission," but added that in his 25 years with the orgarisation, "the situation in the occupied territories has not developed sufficiently in a positive sense.'

He added that he was very concerned for the future of the peace process, and that it would take little "for it to collapse and for (Prime Minister) Yitzhak Rabin's government to fall." Asked whether he per-

ceived a danger that his recommendations would unfairly benefit the Palestinian side, he replied that he bore "as much responsibility as those who condemn (the violence) and do not get re-

He said in the report that the behaviour of the Israeli army had not changed since last year's agreement which created the Palestinian Authority.

Mr. Felber criticised the army's tactic of arbitrary arrests, the sealing-up of Palestinian houses, and "interrogations carried out in

unacceptable conditions.' "Let us stop imagining that the military occupation of the territory by a foreign army is compatible with respect for human rights as we understand and define them," he

In addition to focussing attention on the effectiveness of the commission - which issues dozens of such reports each year - Mr. Felber's action also raised wider questions about whether publicising abuses is the best way to pressure governments into mending their ways.

"Maybe I said out loud think," Mr. Felber told a news conference. "I don't regret it."

"You have to give priority to a political solution. There's no point issuing denunciations if there are no results from these denuncia-

"Is it better to condemn or is it better to support a peace process which leads to a concrete solution?" he said. "For me, I support the concrete solutison.

Mr. Felber said imple mentation of the 1993 accords, which call for Israel to withdraw its troops from

(Continued on page 7)

# Abdul Rahman's call for jihad on video produced in U.S.court

NEW YORK (Agencies) — Sheikh Omar Abdul Rahman, the accused leader of a plot to bomb U.S. landmarks, said in a videotape played before a jury on Thursday that America is Islam's enemy and the Koran allows violence against its

The blind cleric rocked in his seat and smiled broadly as parts of the videotape of a 1993 speech were shown to the Manhattan federal jury hearing the case against him and 11 others accused in the bombing conspiracy.

Prosecutors allege the de-fendants planned to "wage a war of urban terrorism" in the United States. The Egyptian cleric and the others have pleaded not guilty.

The defendants are accused of helping to plan the 1993 World Trade Centre bombing that killed six people and injured more than 1,000. They are also charged with plotting to bomb the United Nations and bridges and tunnels leading into New

The indictment also accuses them of involvement in the November 1990 murder of radical Rabbi Meir Kahane in New York and with planning to kill Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak during a 1993 U.S. visit.

According to the English transcript of the cleric's speech at a "conference on solidarity with Bosnia" that was given to the jury as they watched a video of it, Sheikh Abdul Rahman told cheering spectators it was their duty to

perform "jihad."
The definition of jihad is a key issue at the trial. Prosecutors say it means "struggle" and can be "terrorist" acts against countries and individuals that Muslims view as enemies.

Defence lawyers argue jihad — the Arabic word customarily translated as "holy war" — is a personal struggle to do God's will.

At one point in the speech, the clergyman said "we welcome being terrorists, according to the translation produced in court.

"And we do not deny this charge to ourselves. And the Koran makes it among the means to perform jihad in the sake of Allah, which is to terrorise the enemies of God and our enemies too.

"Then we must be terrorists and we must terrorise the enemies of Islam and.. shake the earth under their feet,"

he added. He continues that "the enemy who is at the foremost

of the work against Islam are

America and its allies.'

Outside the court, defence lawyer Lynne Stewart said the sheikh was simply soliciting donations for Muslims to fight oppression in Bosnia. Ms. Stewart said there was

no question that the sheikh was outspoken and critical of U.S. policies in the Middle East, but he never advocated terrorism here.

"They are trying to use words to convince everybody he is seditious, but fortunately our law requires more." she said.

Earlier, jurors laughed as Ms. Stewart tried to learn what happened to the sheikh's watermelon during a search of his apartment in

"Was it scarfed down by thirsty agents on a summer afternoon, agents tired from looking for all of that jihad stuff?" Ms. Stewart said outside court.

The issue of the missing watermelon was raised by Ms. Stewart each time a Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) agent testified about the apartment search. Agents found \$61,000 in

cash, a bulletproof vest, a bug-detecting device. videotapes and literature evidence that the sheikh led and financed the "terrorism

(Continued on page 7)



FRIDAY PRAYERS: Palestinians pray at the Jerusalem's Haram Al Sharif Complex for the first Friday noon prayer

of the Holy Month of Ramadan. The Dome of the Rock is seen in the background (AFP photo)

# Text of Cairo summit statement

FOLLOWING is the text of the comminuque issued after five hours of talks by His Majesty King Hussein, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat. It was read to reporters in

English by Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa. The leaders of Egypt, Jordan, Israel and the Palestinian Authority, meeting in Cairo on Feb. 2, 1995, reaffirm their determination to continue the Middle East peace process towards the fulfillment of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace in the region. The parties are committed to honour and implement fully, in letter and spirit, the historic accords reached beween them.

They reaffirm their commitment to implement all the oustanding parts of those arguments and their intention to pursue their efforts towards a comprehensive peace in the Middle East. The parties also reaffirm the necessity of moving promptly to conclude the negotiations on the interim agreement between Iserael and the Palestinian Authority in all its aspects.

The parties emphasize

the urgency of taking the necessary measures to enhance the Palestinian-Israeli peace process and to improve the climate and build confidence between the parties. The parties express their appreciation for the swift implementation of the peace treaty between Jordan and Israel. They express the hope that the near future will witness the achievement of peace accords between Israel and Syria and Lebanon. The leaders reiterated

their appreciation for Egypt's leading role for peace in the Middle East, which is essential for the success of the peace process. The peace process in the Middle East is an historic necessity, serving the in-terests of all its peoples and individuals. Therefore it will prevail against all the forces that attempt to undermine it.

The four parties condemned all the outbreaks of

**NEWS IN BRIEF** 

GENEVA (AFP) - The International Committee of the

Red Cross (ICRC) plans to spend \$483 million on aid

operations in more than 30 war-torn countries this year,

including Chechenya, it said Friday. The ICRC, which has

complained its work in Chechenya has been hampered by

security and administrative problems, intends to spend \$43

million on relief to the breakaway Russian republic. It has

also devoted \$82 million to operations in former Yugoslavia. Almost half the budget, \$212 million, will be needed in

Africa, according to the organisation, which has devoted \$66 million to its efforts in Rwanda for this year. About 39

per cent of the budget will be spent on helping displaced persons. 24 per cent will finance visits to 100,000 detainees

in more than 60 countries, and 18 per cent will go on

medical work. The ICRC employs almost 1,000 expatriates working abroad in the field, helped by more than 5,000

ICRC sets \$483m budget for 1995

bloodshed, terror and violence in the region and reaffirmed their intention to stand staunchly against and put an end to all such acts.

Within the framework of peace and reconciliation in the region, with enhanced security, economic prosperity and a higher standard of living for the people, the leaders reaffirmed their intention to achieve equal security and mutual confidence at lower levels of armaments. A. Appreciating Presi-

dent Mubarak's disarmament proposal on weapons of mass destruction, the parties shall pursue a mutually verifiable Middle East zone free of weapons of mass destruction - nuclear, chemical and biological - and their delivery sys-

B. Enhance economic cooperation and encourage joint projects and attract the international private sector, particularly in preparation for the Amman summit, Oct. 30, 1995. As part of this process,

the parties are committed to support the establishment of the regional development bank.

C. Give special attention to strengthening the educa-tional capabilities of the region with special emphasis on science, technology and computerisation. In this regard, the parties will seriously consider and ex-plore with the European Union the convening of a special education conference devoted to this aim.

In pursuit of the implementation of this declaration, the representatives of the four parties at foreign minister's level will conduct consultations to facilitate the cooperation. The first meeting at this level will take place next week in Washington.

Following the Cairo meeting, Chairman Arafat and Prime Minister Rabin have agreed to meet next Thursday in Erez to contime negotiations on the bilateral issues.

President Arafat will meet again when necessary to pursue their joint efforts in reinforcing the process of comprehensive peace in the

conference that would be in-

spired by various ideas prop-

osed recently notably at the

opposition meetings in

Rome... as it would not be

the antagonists talking

Affairs kept Clinton out of

WASHINGTON (APP)

Washington (APP)

President Bill Clinton

advised not to run for presidential in 1988 out of corn his extramarital and the corn his extram cern his extramarital atten-might be made public Number 5836 according to a new biographs
of Mr. Clinton reviewed Friday's Washington Post The book also details Mr dent based on interviews with more than 400 people. One of those interviewed was Bessey Wright, Mr. Clintons chief of staff when he was governor of Arkansas. She went over a list of woman and Human Rights Student and Human Rights Student of the best of word and Human Rights Student of the best went over a list of women Mr. Clinton allegedly had affairs with to determine whether any public disclosing. might harm his chances of running for president in 1988 After the excercise, Mr. Maraniss writes, Ms. Wright suggested that he (Climba) should not get into the race. Saturday there had

sions. "With Bill Clinton it is

often tempting but usually

misleading to try to separate

the good from the bad, to say

that the part of him that is

indecisive, too eager in

please and prone to decep-

tion is more revealing of the

writes. "They coexist."

U.S. carriers to

be named after

Truman, Reagan

WASHINGTON (AFP)

The U.S. Navy's next two

nuclear-powered aircraft car-

riers will carry the names of

Democrat Harry Truman and

Republican Ronald Reagan,

President Bill Clinton

announced Thursday. "The two presidents we honour to-

day knew that there is no security for America in isola-

tionism. no prosperity in pro-

tectionism." Mr. Clinton

said. Mr. Truman and Mr.

Reagan both "worked with a

Congress led by the other party in order to foster the

broad, bipartisan under-

standing and support neces-

Since the Democratic rout in

deals with a Congress con-

trolled by his Republicati

opponents. Truman was pre-ident from 1945 to 1953; while Mr. Reagan led the country from 1981 to 1985.

Mr. Clinton paid special homage to Mr. Reagan, call

ing him "an American leader unsurpased in his boundless

patriotism and love for the

armed forces, and someone

who still inspires us with the

courage and grace." Mis-

Clinton always has had ambiguous relationship with Mr. Reagan, condemning economic policies and bland

ing him for an exploding in licit, but never concealing his admiration for the California.

nian's talents as a communication

cator. The USS Harry True

Reagan will be the nave

eighth and ninth Nimitz-circ

nuclear-powered aircraft car

riers. They are scheduled to

go into service in July 1998 and December 2002. Of the

seven nuclear-powered com

riers currently in service, form

Washington, the Ahraham Lincoln, the Theodore

Rooseveit and the Dwight

Eisenhower.

president — the George

<sub>takaki</sub> says no <sub>nian</sub> move to oust

Taf criticises Israeli MAN (AP) Lawmakers affilia ar) bitterly criticises

is on their mational soil. We station to them and what is sation to tradio reported Frid.

to braces to the Knessel, would man n or use Hussein, who exi Husein will send his private je Husein will send his private je Husein Action Front, the political industrial in the political in the political industrial industrial in the political industrial in the political industrial industrial

m botherhood movement, oci

and Saturday there had should not get into the race and Saturday there had out of deference to his wife and daughter. In the 1992 to campaign, Mr. Ching is Syrian base. Israelit election campaign, Mr. Ching is Syrian base. Israelit in Syrian ba had been his long-time his me claimed a double tress. The book, the dair me mack which killed 21 said, presents Mr. Clinton a 14 on Jan. 22. But Mr. a complex man with intelligence, energy, passion for a official contacts bewho also shaded the true showed little personal discipline or focus, exhibited wake tile temper and was perper tually reluctant to make decisions. Will continue my Islamic Jihad would it the enemy and obtain supons on Palestinian otw." Mr. Shakaki was ced from the Gaza Strip ion the orders of Mr. Zaho was then defence

# inner man than the part of him that is indefatigable, incelligent, emphatetic and selfdeprecating," Mr. Maranis wri postpones lestioning

😑 "He (Rabin) now

配 (AFP) — Former hillan warlord Samir िक भंगी face cross-exan the bombing of and near Beirut on Feb. ंत the questioning was two former presidents, waed from Saturday. our of justice instead Library Saturday rethe February 1994 mg which killed 11 peoand wounded more than Mr. Geagea is also of killing rival Christieder Dany Chamoun have been split into Arerate trials. The exthief, who commanded \*\* disbanded Lebanese s militie in the last five of Lebanon's 1975-1990 sary to sustain U.S. internaer, could face the death is if convicted. His trial Sed on Nov. 19.

#### the Nov. 8 elections, MicClinton has stressed the need idia bans sale ihuman organs

for bipartisanship, particular-ly in foreign affairs, as is DELHI (AP) — The nament on Saturday ban-ne sale of human organs midle. The ban follows the early this week of three employees in a state for allegedly ome unemployed to donate kidneys in a for money and jobs in the Gulf States. The kidwere transplanted on azlionals at Yeliamma a hospital in Bangathe capital of Karnataka United News of India agency quoted Dr. thanjappa, the president harnataka Medical as saying. r<sup>iurke</sup>y blasts ench

elease of suspect

Turintenor minister harshincised France on Saturfor freeing a Turkish leader, saying the strand Nihit Mentese were indications there were indications
the leader of the Dev-Sol Dursun Karatas, had tanged end has gone into Series in as gone into its impossible to its involved in so many was released." Mr.

Russian ultra-nationalist to visit Iraq MOSCOW (R) — Russian ultra-nationalist leader Vladimir Zhirinovsky said on Friday he would visit Iraq later this month and said Moscow should stop respecting internation-

al sanctions against Baghdad. Russian news agencies said. ITAR-TASS said Mr. Zhirinovsky announced plans for a three-day trip to Baghdad after meeting Iraqi Parliamentary Speaker Saadi Mehdi Saleh. The visit would start on Feb. 25, TASS said. "The Liberal Democratic faction will initiate debate (in parliament) on Russia's unilateral withdrawal from the anti-Iraq blockade." Ria quoted party head Mr. Zhirinovsky as saying.

local employees.

#### Sweden cancels Iranian minister's visit

STOCKHOLM (AFP) — Sweden has cancelled a planned visit by Iranian Junior Foreign Minister Mahmud Vaezi to Stockholm flext week, the Swedish foreign ministry said Friday. The ministry did not give a reason but the cancellation followed criticism of the scheduled trip in neighbouring Norway, which has been involved in an increasingly bitter dispute with Iran over that country's attitude towards the British writer Salman Rushdie.

#### U.S. advises caution in Bahrain

WASHINGTON (AFP) — The United States advised Americans in Bahrain on Thursday to keep away from large public gatherings and to exercise caution following recent demonstrations in the Gulf emirate. The State Department said American-owned property including vehicles had been damaged by protesters in acts of arson and vandalism, but said the U.S. embassy in Manama had no indication U.S. nationals were specially targetted. The embassy also educed Americans that conservative dress "may be appropriate" in light of upcoming Ramadan observances and said they should avoid densely populated residential areas, especially after dark.

#### Palestinian row blocks Japanese aid

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AFP) - Medical equipment donated by Japan to a Jericho hospital has stayed in its packing boxes for three months because of an inter-Palestinian row, a daily paper said Thursday. The Palestinian Al Nahar said the equipment had got caught up in an unexplained row between the Palestinian Authority's health ministry and the Palestinian High Council for Health which groups medical professionals.

## Mitterrand proposes EU talks on Algeria could organise in Europe a

PARIS (Agencies) — French President Francois Mitterrand on Friday proposed a European Union (EU) con-ference to help defuse trouoles in Algeria.

Speaking after a meeting with European commissioners, Mr. Mitterrand suggested the EU hold a conference based on demands set out by Algerian opposition parties in Rome late last Mr. Mitterrand said he and

German Chancelior Helmut Kohl agreed the EU should continue to give economic aid to Algeria without taking sides in the conflict between the military-led government and Muslim fundamentalists fighting to overthrow it.

Speaking at a news conference after talks with new European Commission President Jacques Santer, Mr. Mitterrand said his proposal was for the moment "a discussion, a hope, not yet a policy."
"If the European Union

among themselves, there would perhaps be more chance of seeing these proposals recognised by the rival parties," he said. The Algerian government rejected the Rome platform for a ceasefire and democratic elections, branding it foreign interference in the country's civil strife, in which more than 30,000 people

have been killed since Janu-

The Rome platform was agreed by the former ruling National Liberation Front (FLN), the Socialist Forces Front (FSS) and the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS), which was on the verge of winning a general election when the army intervened to scrap it in

# Indyk criticises Syria over 'terrorist' groups

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bill Clinton's nominee for ambassador to Israel said Thursday that Syria's continued willingness to provide haven to "terrorist" groups "is incompatible to its commitments to peace.'

Martin Indyk told the Sen-ate Foreign Relations Committee that the presence of such groups in Syria also was certainly counterproductive in terms of any kind of improvement in U.S.-Syrian reations."

No senator expressed opposition to Mr. Indyk's nomination. He is expected to win confirmation later this month to fill the post that has been vacant since August when Edward Djerejian res-

Born in England and raised. in Australia, Mr. Indyk would be the first Jewish U.S. ambassador to Israel. It is a measure the support for

his nomination that he has the backing of, among others, the American Zionist movement and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Since 1993, Mr. Indyk has served in the White House as the president's principal adviser on the Middle East. He pointed out that "in Syria or in Syrian-controlled areas of Lebanon there are a

variety," of "terrorist" groups, "The administration finds that unacceptable and has made that very clear from the highest levels in government to the highest levels in the

Syrian government," he said. During his confirmation hearing, Mr. Indyk appealed to Congress to hold off taking positions on the status of Jerusalem and the possibility of U.S. participation in a

(Continued on page 7)